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CONTADORA 'TECHNICAL GROUP' TO MEET IN PANAMA

PA132340 Panama City CRITICA in Spanish 13 Jun 83 pp 40, 30

[By CJNL]

[Text] Nine deputy foreign ministers, four from the "Contadora Group" and the five from Central America, will meet in Panama Wednesday. They will form the so-called "Technical Group" which the last meeting of foreign ministers in Panama on 28-30 May authorized.

In an exclusive statement to CRITICA, Foreign Minister Juan Jose Amado III said last night that the meeting of the "Technical Group" will be at the deputy foreign minister level, but that the only problem is that Salvadoran President Alvaro Magana will be going to the United States at that time and will probably be accompanied by Salvadoran Foreign Minister Fidel Chavez Mena.

"This might cause postponement of the 'Technical Group' meeting, but we are talking with President Magana so he will send an alternate representative to this very important meeting."

The "Technical Group" has the mission of gathering the various opinions on subjects that were agreed upon in the meeting at the end of May, gathering the relevant information in each case and proposing the most advisable procedures to effectively deal with the problems that have been identified, the news bulletin of the last meeting of the nine foreign ministers said. The original date for the "Technical Group" meeting was 14 June, but Foreign Minister Amado confirmed that it will be on 15 June.

The Panamanian foreign minister said that "if the 'Technical Group' begins its talks on the 15th, it could extend its meetings to 16 and 17 June and even over the weekend." The "Technical Group's" report or reports will be brought before the third joint meeting of foreign ministers that is scheduled to begin in Panama City on 21 or 22 June.

POLITICIANS REACT TO THATCHER ELECTION VICTORY

PY122210 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 11 June 83 p 1

[Text] Radical leader Antonio Troccoli yesterday called British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's election victory an "obstacle that could hinder negotiations (over the Malvinas Islands) despite the upcoming handover of power to a constitutional government in Argentina" and added that the British "will have to put up with her."

But Justicialist Party Vice President Deolindo Bittel said earlier this week that the Peronists would negotiate with "any elected British Government" adding that his party would do "everything possible" to recover the Malvinas Islands "by peaceful means."

Meanwhile, the daily newspaper CONVICCION yesterday accused Mrs Thatcher of trickery to achieve her victory in Thursday's general election. CONVICCION said: "Maggie (Thatcher) did not hesitate to use all the appropriate electoral tricks, fully taking advantage of the deficiencies of the electoral system."

Almost a year after the June 14 end of the conflict with Britain, one high ranking military officer said: "It would be nice of Maggie to drop us a line to thank us for her (political) victory." Radical Party President Carlos Contin, however, said yesterday: "I don't care who wins -- the (British) elections are absolutely irrelevant to us."

OFFICIAL DELEGATION TO ILO REPORTEDLY REJECTED

PY132035 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1000 GMT 10 Jun 83

[Text] Buenos Aires, 10 Jun (DYN) -- Union sources have reported here that the delegation of the General Confederation of Labor on Brazil Street [CGT-Brazil] has been recognized as the single representative of the Argentine labor movement by the union leaders of America and Europe who are participating in the ILO conference in Geneva.

Fernando Donaires (paper workers) and Cesar Loza [word indistinct], members of the Argentine labor delegation, reported yesterday from Geneva that "the official labor group has been repudiated by the ILO conference, which considers them representatives of the military government."

Support of the CGT-Brazil delegation was formalized during a meeting attended by leaders of the Inter-American Regional Organization of Workers [ORIT], the U.S. AFL-CIO, and the International Conference of Free Trade Union Organization, the union sources stated.

These sources added that the CGT-Brazil leaders are able to prevent the official representatives from attending any of the meetings in which they participate.

The sources said that the document relesaed by the CGT-Brazil was well received at the assembly, and that copies in English, Spanish and French were distributed.

On commenting on the statement by Labor Minister Hector Villaveiran, that in Argentina "there exists broad union freedom," Loza stated that "our document, which states just the opposite, reflects the real situation."

Loza concluded that "there does not exist any type of contact" with the official labor delegation, adding that "we do not even recognize them because they do not represent the Argentine workers."

RUMORS DENIED ON SOVIET, POLISH PORT APPROVAL

PY111704 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 11 Jun 83

[Text] The secretary of maritime interests has denied that ports along the Patagonia coast have been cleared for ships from Poland or the Soviet Union. Rear Admiral Ciro Garcia remarked that such rumors are groundless.

CZECHOSLOVAK TRADE DELEGATION VISITS CAPITAL

PY131955 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 13 Jun 83

[Excerpt] The Argentine Trade Chamber is being visited by a Czechoslovak technical and trade mission with which it will analyze the trade exchange between the two countries, which amounts to $80 million to $140 million, and the prospects of increasing it.

BROADCASTING WORKERS TO BEGIN STOPPAGES 13 JUN

PY110207 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2234 GMT 10 Jun 83

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 10 Jun (NA) -- The employees of the broadcasting sector who are members of the Argentine Association of Telegraph and Radio Telegraph Workers (AATRA) will begin 15-minute per hour stoppages on Monday and they will work "in accordance with their work agreements, including slowdowns" protesting the refusal of the employer sector to agree to negotiate new salaries. The AATRA has warned that if an agreement is not reached, the stoppages will be extended to 30-minutes per hour on 18 June.

ALFONSIN'S FACTION WINS IN RADICAL ELECTIONS

PY132215 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 13 Jun 83 p 7

[Excerpts] Radical presidential hopeful Raul Alfonsin obtained a first significant victory yesterday as his Renewal and Change faction won a landslide in internal party elections in Chubut and Formosa Provinces. Former vice-governor Atilio Viglione of the Lista Morada (Renewal and Change) scored 65 percent of the vote, according to first results at press time yesterday and was thereby elected the Radicals' gubernatorial candidate in Chubut.

Meanwhile in Formosa the Lista Azul y Blanca -- an alliance of the Renewal and Change and National Line factions, which supports the Alfonsin-Victor Martinez presidential ticket -- won a majority of 1,417 votes over the opposition Lista Morada, also an Alfonsin-following faction. Alberto Maglietti is the winning faction's gubernatorial candidate.

Two other factions, representing the conservative Yrigoyenist Affirmation Movement (MAY) and National Line sectors, did not take part in the internal elections. Over 50 percent of the party's affiliates took part in the Radicals' first internal elections in 10 years, party sources said.

The results of yesterday's elections gave the Renewal and Change faction a large majority in the number of delegates at the party's national convention, which is to elect the Radical presidential ticket.

Afonsin meanwhile said that the Radical Party may obtain even "without ties," the support of other parties in the electoral college in order to impose its presidential ticket. The Renewal and Change leader, who is currently touring San Luis Province, stated that "the Radicals will win the forthcoming elections."

PERONISM PROJECTED TO WIN IN 21 OF 23 DISTRICTS

PY132130 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1800 GMT 12 Jun 83

[Text] Buenos Aires, 12 Jun (NA) -- According to a press report published today, the Justicialist Party will win 21 of the 23 electoral districts. This is according to Interior Ministry predictions. The ministry also estimates that in Neuquen and Corrientes, the Neuquen Popular Movement and the autonomous Liberal Pact, respectively, will defeat Peronism without any need to resort to electoral alliance.

The report adds that possible party alliances have "high probabilities of defeating the Justicialist Party in four of the 21 districts where the Peronists are expected to win. These four districts are Cordoba, Mendoza, San Juan and Chubut. The report, published in today's morning newspaper TIEMPO ARGENTINO, states that the Interior Ministry has made these estimates based on 21 districts, excluding Tierra del Fuego from this analysis. It adds that the Justicialist Party will have an absolute majority in the Buenos Aires Province and will be the second largest vote-getter in the federal capital.

Two maps illustrating the report reflect estimates by the Interior Ministry for each of the districts. According to these estimates, Peronism will obtain an absolute majority in Buenos Aires (Province), Jujuy, Salta, Tucuman, Santiago del Estero, Formosa, Misiones, Entre Rios, La Rioja, San Luis, Rio Negro and Santa Cruz.

According to these predictions, the Justicialist Party will be the second largest vote-getter in the federal capital, Cordoba, Santa Fe, Mendoza, Cantamarca, Chaco, San Juan, La Pampa, and Chubut.

The second map estimates the districts where the "non-Justicialist group can win." It notes that this could happen in Corrientes and Neuquen, through the previously mentioned forces. In four other provinces, Cordoba, Mendoza, San Juan, and Chubut, it is "highly probably" that Peronism will be defeated by electoral alliances.

The estimates conclude by saying that "it is rather difficult" for Peronism to lose with possible alliances.

MONTONEROS OFFICIAL DENIES RENEWED SUBVERSION

PA132020 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 13 Jun 83

[Interview granted by Guillermo Simpson, representative in Cuba of the Peronist Montoneros Movement, to Pedro Martinez Pirez; date and place of interview not given -- recorded]

[Text] [Martinez] I would like to hear your opinion about the Argentine Armed Forces' charge about the reemergence of subversion in your country, which they mainly attribute to the Montoneros.

[Simpson] After the fall of Companero Raul Yavet, one of the members of our national leadership; the intensification of repudiation and confrontation by all nationalistic and popular forces in Argentina following the dictatorship's report on missing people; and the recent murder of Cambiesi and Pereira, two other members of revolutionary Peronism, the Argentine military dictatorship prepared a report that sought to portray the Montoneros as the main enemies of democracy in Argentina. To this effect, they came up with the alleged reemergence of subversion, attacks on union and political leaders. This is completely false. We stress this and want to underscore our denial, even though for the people's forces this is not necessary. In fact, with few exceptions, none of the alleged victims under observation for future military actions has lent himself to the dictatorship's game.

In view of all the activities carried out by the dictatorship even before 1976, and by the previous dictatorships; and in light of the most recent developments, it has been made clear that oligarchy and its allies within the Armed Forces are the only subversives who subvert the constitutional order here.

[Martinez] Simpson, the Montoneros have also been accused of infiltrating Peronism. What is your view on this?

[Simpson] Well, this is part of the same campaign intended to divide the popular sectors, the popular forces, and within them, their majority movement, which is the Peronist Movement. The Peronist Montoneros Movement has always been part of the Peronist Movement. Our political actions have always been framed by this great movement, the one most in accordance with the struggle and interests of the Argentine workers. Due to the illegitimate ban on our forces, we develop all our political activities and express our demands within the framework of the Peronist Movement, through a number of political, trade union, and youth organizations with which we share authentic agreement on points of our programs. It is therefore clear that our role is neither to infiltrate nor to violently attack any Peronist sector, as the enemy seeks to portray us.

Our stand calls for unity based on an authentic program calling for national and social liberation, which would express our people's anti-oligarchic and anti-imperialistic nature. That is the role that Peronism must play. Those who really infiltrate Peronism are the traitors who seek to [word indistinct] the movement, in an effort to change it into a force devoid of popular content, as is the case with Mr Robledo and his ally [words indistinct] continuing of the oligarchic and military interests within the movement.

Concerning this, we wish to stress that our position is to avoid participating in the game into which the dictatorship and the oligarchy want to drag us with all these accusations about alleged attacks. We will not take confrontation to a military level or to a level of violence within Peronism We will maintain confrontation at a level of political struggle, based on the Argentine people's true interests. In this regard -- and this is where we once again ratify our democratic aspiration -- we maintain that Peronist unity must also be based on true domestic democracy. The traitors, those who are not acting in accordance with Argentine interests, will be fully identified then.

HAVANA REPORTS RETURN OF FIRST POLITICAL EXILE

FL101455 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 1340 GMT 10 Jun 83

[Text] Buenos Aires -- Former Radical Civic Union Senator Hipolito Solari Yrigoyen will return tomorrow to the capital of his country after being forced to spend 6 years in exile in Europe by the Argentine military junta. Solari will be the first political exile to return to Argentina since the military seized power in March 1976.

LIBYAN PLANE LANDS; STILL IN RIO; CARGO LOADED

PY140145 Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 13 Jun 83 p 5

[Excerpt] Rio de Janerio -- The last of the four Libyan planes held in Brazil, a Hercules C-130 which remained in Recife, unexpectedly flew yesterday to Rio de Janeiro where it landed at the Galeao Air Base at 1612. The plane bearing the identification marking PP-54-DJK was parked near the Aeronautics Materiel Depot, 500 meters from the nearest point to which journalists had access from outside the fence surrounding the air base.

The Hercules C-130 of the United African Airlines, which should have flown directly from Recife to Tripoli, came to Rio de Janeiro to load the cargo left behind by the three planes which are back in the Libyan capital. The third plane took off in the afternoon the day before yesterday, and it should have been the last one to come to Rio before heading for Tripoli.

Beginning at 1635, the load from two trucks was transferred into the Hercules C-130 bay through the rear door, which was closed at 1705.

Thereafter the plane stayed parked with all lights off in the yard of the air base. Rifle-armed soldiers stood guard around the plane.

At the Galeao Airport, there was no authority to provide information about the time when the C-130 was to take off. At night, the plane was still at the same site. Eight crew members flew to Rio de Janeiro while two others stayed at the Boa Viagem Hotel in Recife which is an obligatory stopover for refueling on the way to Tripoli. The two crew members will board the C-130 at the Recife refueling stopover.

GOVERNMENT COUNCIL ISSUES ECONOMIC PACKAGE

PY110055 Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DO BRASIL in Portuguese 10 Jun 83 p 20

[Text] At a meeting held yesterday, the National Monetary Council adopted an economic package aimed at reducing the fiscal deficit and controlling inflation. This is in addition to the measure whereby the price of oil byproducts was increased the day before yesterday. A 21-point package was announced yesterday containing measures in the fiscal, monetary, financial, and credit areas, in addition to measures for assistance to the Northeast. The government has yet to make decisions regarding the removal of subsidies on wheat and sugar or the curtailment of state enterprise expenditures. These decisions will be made later.

Measures in the Tax Area

-- Reduction of income tax withholdings on salaries: The correction of the withholdings scale will be advanced from October to 1 July, raising by nearly 30 percent the level of salaries on which different withholdings percentages are applied. The scale correction is necessary because the 6-monthly salary readjustments push taxpayers to higher withholding levels in a short period of time. The advancing of the correction date (normally this would have been done in October) means an immediate advantage for the taxpayers whose withholding percentage will be lowered. But if there is no other correction by the end of the year, that advantage will be eliminated with the salary readjustments expected for the second half of the year, especially if the taxpayer receives more than a 30 percent readjustment by December.

With the withholding correction to be made in 1 July, the limits for withholding exemption will rise from 111,000 cruzeiros (salaried workers) and 37,000 cruzeiros (non-salaried workers) to 144,000 and 48,000 cruzeiros respectively. Two salary brackets will be added with withholdings of 40 and 45 percent.

-- Tax withholding on open market profits: Beginning 1 July 1983, individuals and nonfinancial corporations accruing profits from the purchase and subsequent sale of short-term (under 90 days) securities will be subject to a tax withholding of 4 percent. This percentage can be either increased or reduced in 2 percentage points by the National Monetary Council. This tax will be withheld by the corporation accrediting or paying for the transaction at the time it takes place. When the transaction is made by a financial corporation, this 4 percent tax will be calculated by said corporation on the monthly earnings and paid as anticipated profit tax.

-- Profit tax withholding on capital earnings: To cover expenditures caused by the drought in the north and the floods in the south, a 10 percent additional surcharge will be collected, from 1 July through 31 December 1983, on tax withholdings applying to dividends, interests, and profits. This additional surcharge will be deductible from the income tax declarations. The measure applies to all individual earnings classified under paragraphs A, B, and H in the income tax declaration as dividends; it applies to profits from the sale of stocks transacted at prices other than the stock exchange positions; to interest paid on bank deposit certificates and bank deposit receipts; to bills of exchange and debentures; profits from copyrights; etc. For dividends, the withholding percentage will go from the current 15 percent to 16.5 percent; for bank deposit certificates from 30 percent to 33 percent on the interest; and for bills of exchange, from 4 percent to 4.4 percent during 6 months. This 10 percent additional surcharge will not apply to salaries, passbook interest, fees paid by enterprises and civilian corporations for the rendering of professional services, and profits from purchase and short-term subsequent transfer of open market securities.

-- Advancing profit tax collection from financial institutions: Financial institutions that are required to close their business year on 31 December will make, beginning 1 July 1983, advance monthly tax payments which are deductible from their 1984 income tax declarations. This advance tax payment is already made by individuals (tax withholdings), as well as by companies closing their business year before 31 December. This tax advance now created will be calculated on the basis of one-twelfth of the taxes paid in the previous business year, and it will be paid at the end of the month from July through December. The remainder will be paid during the period elapsing from January to April (deadline for filing income tax declaration in the following year).

-- Withholding tax on payments made to firms of professionals: Payments made or accredited by companies as remuneration for services rendered by firms of professionals in the exercise of professions legally recognized will be subject to income tax withholding of 3 percent, and this will be deductible in the firm's income tax declaration. The measure is intended to give these firms similar treatment to that given to individuals and to remuneration of the same nature accredited or paid to individuals by companies.

-- Postponement of the effects of the cruzeiro's maxidevaluaton: The government will permit the difference between the exchange correction and the monetary correction on the foreign debt of enterprises to be entered on their balance sheets as frozen or deferred obligation for amortization over a 5 year period.

This will allow the highly indebted enterprises to avoid presenting losses on their balance sheets and permit them to maintain a good credit rating with banks and the confidence of creditors and shareholders. The criterion of accounting that difference as an expense has been maintained, thus reducing profits and paying lower taxes. These options are open now to enterprises whose business years close between 21 February and 31 December 1983; for other enterprises, these options are open in the 1985 business year -- 1984 year-base.

-- Changing the deadlines for collection of federal taxes: The deadlines for banks and enterprises to turn tax withholdings over to the Treasury will be modified beginning in July 1983. Two resolutions issued yesterday by the Finance Ministry set a 15-day deadline (previously 30 days) for enterprises to turn tax withholdings over to banks which, in turn, will have variable deadlines for turning them over to the Treasury, depending on the size of their operations -- but not to exceed 30 days. Up until now, the banks waited 30 days for transferring tax withholdings to the Treasury.

Measures in the Monetary, Financial and Credit Areas

-- The Central Bank will henceforth periodically set limits for the growth of credit operations of the public sector (state enterprises and decentralized agencies) by percentages which will be in tune with the program for cutting back the fiscal deficit.

-- Setting a minimum cost for credit or financing operations of state enterprises: Federal public institutions of whatever nature are forbidden to make loan or financing contracts at a cost lower than that set for agricultural undertakings and for small- and medium-sized enterprises.

Gradual reduction of subsidies to agricultural credit: Credit for agriculture and agrobusiness will bear annual interest rates of 3 and 5 percent respectively, and monetary corrections equivalent to the following percentages of the fluctuations of the ORTNs (National Treasury Readjustable Orders):

Location	1983	1984	1985
areas of SUDAM [Amazonas Superintendence], SUDENE [North East Superientendence], Jequitinhonha River Valley (Minas Gerais).....	70 0/0	80 0/0	80 0/0
Other Regions.....	85 0/0	95 0/0	100 0/0

The same percentages will apply to special programs, except to programs involving monetary correction on credits under the Polonordeste [Program for the Development of Integrated Areas of the North East], Prohidro [Expansion unknown], Projeto Sertanejo, Procanor [Expansion unknown], Probor [Expansion unknown] in the SUDAM, SUDENE, and Jequitinhonha River, Espirito Santo, Polamazonia [Amazonas Development Program], which will adjusted to fluctuations of the ORTNs in the following percentages: 1983, 55 percent; 1984, 65 percent; 1985, 70 percent.

For financing farm tractors, machinery, equipment, boats, cattle, forestation and reforestation, monetary correction will be applied in full plus 3 percent yearly interest. For operations which must be transacted through banks, interest rates will be lowered from 8 to 3 percent per year, with a monetary correction of 100-percent ORTN fluctuation.

-- Setting up an agricultural investment program (Proinvest): Its objective is to promote agricultural production and productivity. It will finance on a priority basis the purchase of agricultural machinery and equipment, landclearing for agricultural purposes, fertilizers, chemical soil treatment. Resources apportioned to this program are 150 billion cruzeiros, of which 50 billion cruzeiros will be made available by the IRDB, and the remainder transferred from the Funagri [General Fund for Agriculture and Industry].

-- Reducing subsidies to export credit operations: The financing cost will now be of 60 percent until 31 D3cember 1983; 3 percent per year plus 70 percent of the ORIN fluctuations each 6-month period until the operation is completed.

In case of refinancing, the cost will be reduced as much as 4 percentage points in relation to the initial financing cost.

-- Gradually reducing subsidies to credits for very small, small, and medium-sized enterprises: Credit will be subject to 3 percent yearly interest plus a monetary correction equivalent to the following percentages of the ORTN fluctuations:

Location	1983	1984	1985
In areas promoted by SUDAM, SUDENE, etc	70 0/0	80 0/0	85 0/0
Other regions	85 0/0	100 0/0	100 0/0

-- Elimination of growth limits for credits to the private sector: Outright removal of growth limits for credit operations between commercial and investment banks and private companies.

Reduction of the tax on financial operations [IOF] on credit operations: The IOF on credit operations, with the exception of credit operations carried out directly with the consumer for which the IOF is already low, has been reduced. The IOF had already been reduced to 1.8 percent on credits for real-estate operations. Now the current 4.6 percent IOF on 1-year-term bank credit operations has been reduced to 1.5 percent. With these changes, the equal monthly installments may be reduced from 0.4 percent to 0.13 percent, and the discounts of invoices at the banks over a 3-month period -- not including the cost of the average outstanding balance -- may be reduced from 219.44 percent to 205.97 percent as final cost to the beneficiary, after 1 year. The final cost of a loan to finance operating capital at the investment banks, on a 1-year term, with 21 percent interest in addition to the monetary correction, may be reduced from 28.14 percent to 23.24 percent, without the correction.

The mandatory guarantee deposit of commercial banks, related to deposits at sight, will now be calculated on the basis of the following percentages: large-size banks -- 50 percent (present rate -- 45 percent); medium-size banks -- 45 percent (present rate -- 40 percent); and small-size banks -- 36 percent (present rate -- 36 percent). At investment banks, the mandatory guarantee deposits related to fixed-term deposits will be increased from 5 percent to 10 percent.

Interest rates charged by the Central Bank on operations of cash-flow financial assistance to investment banks and financial companies were also increased. Henceforth, if an operation is in accordance with the ceilings periodically fixed by the Central Bank, the financial institution will pay a rate equal to the monetary correction for that month, plus interests of 9 percent per annum.

In case the limit is surpassed, the interest rate to be paid will then be 18 percent. The operation cost may either be reduced or increased depending on for how many days the financial institution is utilizing the credit.

The Central Bank, jointly with the Agriculture, Interior, Finance, and Planning Ministries will enforce measures to postpone the payment of the debts of farmers whose crops had been parched by the drought. This measure shall apply to the drought-stricken areas in the The extensions are not subject to interest rate increases.

A review of claims not accepted involving 1981 and 1982 crops has been approved, as long as the reason for the rejection had been the failure to timely file the loss report.

For as long as the phenomenon lasts, interest rates for rural credits in the drought-stricken areas will remain unchanged.

The government will compensate for up to 50 percent of the investments made by farmers in irrigation projects in the northeastern semi-arid region which have been approved by the appropriate government agency. This compensation will follow after the completion of the project, its costs, and the compliance with technical recommendations have been ascertained.

Parties' Reactions

PY132025 [Editorial Report] Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese at 2200 GMT on 10 June carries a report on congressional reactions to the government economic package. The announcer quotes PMOB [Brazilian Democratic Mobilization Party] Senate leader Humberto Lucena as expressing his party's protest against the package. In a note read by Lucena, the announcer explains, the PMDB states that "the results of the package will be just the opposite to what the government expects," because "inflation will soar, the public deficit will rise and the removal of subsidies will cause an immediate price increase that will reduce the purchasing power of salaries even further." The PMDB note concludes by demanding "the democratization of the nation, the restoration of the judicial branch, the convocation of a national constituent assembly and the implementation of direct presidential elections." The announcer also explains that Lucena remarked that the package will be of little advantage to the drought-devastated northeastern region.

The radio report also quotes PDT [Democratic Labor Party] leader Senator Roberto Saturnino as criticizing the government economic package and PMDB Deputy Carlos Santana as referring to the note that his party issued condemning the package. The announcer says that Santana claimed that the measures "will mean collapse for the public and the private sectors." In turn, the announcer also quotes PDS [Social Democratic Party] leader Deputy Jorge Arbage as criticizing the PMDB note because "it makes no contribution within the context of the measures enacted by the government," and PDT leader Deputy (Sergio Lomba) as criticizing the package and as claiming that the only path leading to a solution will be "the restoration of the people's right to choose their own rulers."

For his part, PT [Workers Party] leader Deputy Airton Soares is also quoted as referring to the package and as charging that after yielding to the IMF dictates, "the government still has the nerve to ask for workers' support."

Paris AFP in Spanish at 2135 GMT on 10 June reports a widespread "skeptical" reaction to the economic measures enacted by the Brazalian Government. AFP reports that 80 percent of a sample of 42 politicians, economists and manufacturers polled by the newspaper GAZETA MERCANTIL voiced their opposition to the package, claiming that "it will result in higher interest and inflation rates."

According to AFP, leading coffee producer Julio Cesar Marino and Rural Society President Renato Ticoulat agreed that "instead of putting the economy on a sounder footing, the government has only mitigated the problem."

Juarez Soares, Banco Real vice president, is quoted as saying that it was regrettable that the government "has not cut public spending."

AFP also reports that Sao Bernardo Metalworkers Union President Jair Meneghelli said that "the measures will harm workers" and that "they will have to go into the streets."

BRIEFS

ELECTRICITY CONSUMPTION -- Eletrobras [Brazilian Electric Power Companies, Inc.] has reported that national electricity consumption increased 7.4 percent during the first 4 months of 1983, compared to the 1.6 percent increase during the same period of 1982. [Excerpt] [Sao Paulo O ESTADO DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 31 May p 32 PY]

NEW OILFIELDS -- On 31 May, Petrobras announced the discovery of another oilfield in the Espirito Santo Basin near the mouth of the Doce River. The first well, named Lagoa das Piabas-1, has a daily production of 1,700 barrels of oil. The tests were made at a depth of between 1,833 and 1,843 meters but Petrobras will continue to drill down to 2,400 meters in search for new oil-bearing strata. [Excerpts] [Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 1 Jun 83 p 24 PY] Petrobras announced today that a new oilfield has been discovered in the Campos Basin, off the coast of Rio de Janeiro State. Initial tests revealed a flow of 2,000 barrels per day. Petrobras also announced that Brazil established a new oil production record in May when 325,830 barrels per day were extracted. Through April, 1,772,000,000 barrels have been produced in the country. [Summary] [Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 6 Jun 83]

NEW SUBMACHINEGUN PRODUCED -- The Brazilian explosives factory Valparaiba in Sao Jose dos Campos has started to place on the national and international market the new 9 mm CEV-M1 submachinegun. The new submachinegun, manufactured entirely with Brazilian technology, can fire 650 rounds per minute, has a range of 200 meters, weights 3 kg and does not require lubrication. [Summary] [Rio de Janeiro JORNAL DE BRASIL in Portuguese 3 Jun 83 p 16 PY]

DEMONSTRATIONS ON EVE OF NATIONAL PROTEST DAY

PY132225 Paris AFP in Spanish 2128 GMT 13 Jun 83

[Text] Santiago, 13 Jun (AFP) -- Antigovernment, demonstrators were disbanded today in various sites in Santiago on the eve of the second national protest day which has been called by labor organizations who want democracy restored in Chile.

The demonstrators gathered in small groups in front of La Moneda Presidential Palace, the Metropolitan Cathedral, and a modern supermarket, but they were disbanded by the Carabineros military police. According to initial reports, the police arrested no one, although some demonstrators and journalists were beaten by the police.

The Workers National Command [CNT], which promotes the second national protest day next Tuesday, emphasized that the planned demonstrations will not be violent, in an attempt to avoid confrontations as in the first national protest day on 11 May, which ended up with 2 dead and hundreds detained.

Women who are relatives of disappeared prisoners gathered for a few minutes in front of the Presidential Palace, chanting a line, "For life and peace, tell us where they are." Before walking away, the women placed a banner with the inscription "Where are the disappeared prisoners?" on the steps of the Plaza Libertad. On the steps leading to the Metropolitan Cathedral, dozens of intellectuals, artists and political leaders held a quick rally, holding a sign asking for "Democracy Now."

GOVERNMENT DETAINS, RELEASES CTC UNION LEADERS

PY131957 Paris AFP in Spanish 0453 GMT 12 Jun 83

[Text] Rancagua, Chile, 11 Jun (AFP) -- Sources of the Confederation of Copper Workers (CTC) have reported that two Chilean laeders of the CTC were released tonight after having been detained for a few hours in Rancagua, 85 km south of Santiago. The CTD heads the National Workers' Command that has called for a day of protest on Tuesday, seeking the reestablishment of democracy and public rights. Sources have stated that union leaders Marco Molina Catalan and Arturo Vera Mauro were detained today by agents dressed in civilian clothes, who intercepted the car in which the union members were travelling.

It has also been reported that they were released late on Saturday night, but that on Monday they must present themselves at a court in this city. The two labor leaders belong to the El Teniente Mine labor union. This mine is located to the east of Rancagua.

HONDURAN NAVY CHIEF ENDS VISIT, DEPARTS 12 JUN

PY132000 Paris AFP in Spanish 0026 GMT 13 Jun 83

[Text] Santiago, 12 Jun (AFP) -- Captain Ruben Humberto Montoya, commander in chief of the Honduran Naval Force, departed today for his country after a 1-week visit to Chile.

The high ranking officer visited naval installations and premises in the Chilean ports of Valparaiso and Talcahuano and he also met with Admiral Jose Toribio Merino, the commander in chief of the Chilean Navy.

FOREIGN MINISTER'S PRESS CONFERENCE REPORTED

PA140205 Bogota EL SIGLO in Spanish 10 Jun 83 pp 1, 15

[By Lucy Diaz]

[Text] Colombian Foreign Minister Rodrigo Lloreda Caicedo has expressed concern over the deterioration of relations between Nicaragua and the United States which, he added, is a factor that further disturbs the Central American region. He also strongly defended Colombia's foreign policy, stressing that it is not hostile to the United States; it is simply independent. He said that there have been no negative commercial repercussions as a result of this policy, and certainly not in Colombia's international economic facilities.

"I think this has been a matter not just of poor communications but of poor planning, inasmuch as I have not noticed anything unusual. [sentence as published] On the contrary, at this moment, Colombia is regarded with great respect, we are consulted on many issues, our country is considered a country of responsible decisions, and I also believe that much has been done in recent months to place Colombia's international image in a more solid and stronger position," Lloreda Caicedo said at a news conference in this capital yesterday.

As for the expulsion of the U.S. diplomats from Nicaragua and the United States closing of several Nicaraguan consulates in the United States, Lloreda Caicedo said these are incidents that cannot be looked upon with satisfaction. "Naturally, every country has autonomy on that subject and for us it is extremely difficult to pass judgment," Lloreda Caicedo added, as he reiterated his concern over these developments at a time when efforts are being made to achieve peace in the convulsed Central American area.

BATEMAN REPORTEDLY LEAVES COUNTRY WITH FUNDS

PA132305 Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 10 Jun 83 p 8-A

[Text] According to a rumor spread in Bogota, Jaime Bateman Cayon, leader of the M-19 [19 April Movement] guerrilla group, fled the country several weeks ago with 950 million pesos. It was learned that these funds were to be used to purchase weapons.

General Gustavo Matamoros d'Costa, commander of the military forces, recently said that Bateman had left the country and that he was probably in Libya. The high-ranking officer made this statement after it was rumored that Bateman was dead. However, he was seen boarding a light plane in Cartagena accompanied by Antonio Escobar Bravo.

According to a report, Bateman took the plane to leave the country with Escobar Bravo, a former Conservative legislator. It was also rumored in circles close to the Military Institutes Brigade that Bateman had deserted the M-19 several weeks earlier.

Todelar cited military sources reporting that Bateman abandoned his movement in view of recent stands that the M-19 adopted regarding the amnesty. Bateman's signature did not appear on the most recent M-19 bulletin which referred to peace and amnesty. This bulletin carried the signature of Gustavo Arias.

Matamoros d'Costa said that, several days ago, the army confirmed that Bateman was abroad. He maintained that most M-19 guerrillas have been training in Cuba for some time now.

A spokesman of the Army's intelligence service who talked with EL TIEMPO said that they knew of the rumor but that it had not been confirmed yet.

25 GUERRILLAS ACCEPT AMNESTY, DENY LIBYAN LINKS

PA132310 Bogota EL SIGLO in Spanish 10 Jun 83 pp 1, 15

[By Eduardo Castillo]

[Excerpts] A group of 25 members of the 19 April Movement (M-19), belonging to the "coffee belt group" ["regional del cafe"] operating in Caldas, surrendered yesterday to Attorney General Carlos Jimenez Gomez, accepting the amnesty proclaimed by President Belisario Betancur. However, the 24 men and 1 women, wearing black hoods with the rebel organization's acronym, warned that if any of their group disappears, is persecuted or murdered, "things will get tough in Caldas, Quindio, and Risaralda Departments."

One of the leaders of the M-19 group operating in the coffee belt denied that Jaime Bateman Cayon, leader of the clandestine organization, has absconded with 800 million pesos, or that he had died in an airplane crash.

The rebels said that they will try to convince other M-19 members to avail themselves of the benefits of the amnesty law. They promised the attorney general that they will go to the fields and mountains to convince their companeros. One of the guerrilla leaders complained that the amnesty law proclaimed by President Belisario Betancur's government has suffered setbacks everywhere.

He said, "The amnesty law has been hindered by the traditional political sectors as well as the civilians. There are enemies of peace who are interested in seeing that Law 35 of 1982 will end in failure. Among these enemies are some Army sectors, the Death to Kidnappers Group (MAS), paramilitary forces, cattlemen, large landowners, and the oligarchy."

The guerrilla leader said that the rebel groups operating in Colombia are not kidnapping people to finance their activities, because they are interested in peace.

He said that the so-called "M-19 National Directorate" authorized the 24 men and 1 woman to accept the amnesty Law. He also denied that the Libyan planes caught carrying weapons in Brazil had any connection with the M-19 group.

BRIEFS

AGREEMENT WITH UK -- The National Apprenticeship Service has signed a technical cooperation agreement with the UK on the training of mineworkers. The agreement allows for technical assistance from British experts and updated training plans and programs on safety and miners' rescue at the National Mining Center. [Summary] [Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 1 Jun 82 p 14A PA]

BELAUNDE VISITS AYACUCHO, DECRIES TERRORISM

PY131945 Lima Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 13 Jun 83

[Excerpts] President Fernando Belaunde has hoisted the national flag in Ayacucho. On hoisting the flag at the Ayacucho parade ground, President Belaunde said that the national flag is the only one that can be hoisted there or anywhere else in Peru.

President Belaunde, who traveled to Ayacucho in the company of the ministers of the interior and of mines and energy, said that some persons had been detained in Lima in order to clarify their responsibility in the recent destruction of Lima high tension towers.

Concerning the restoration of order, President Belaunde said that the struggle in Ayacucho is not directed against terrorism but simply at the restoration of order, which has been disrupted by some crimes.

The Peruvian president also stressed that constitutional guarantees have been suspended in order to protect the national patrimony.

Shortly before leaving for Ayacucho, Belaunde said that the purpose of the suspension of guarantees is to safeguard public interest and the national patrimony which for the most part is made up of our energy sources and the integrated electrical system of some 5,000 towers.

President Belaunde, who will also travel to Junin Department, said that in recent years terrorists have destroyed some 50 towers and that this number is not even 5 percent of the total number of towers in Peru. In addition, Belaunde added, the government builds 100 new towers each time terrorists destroy one.

Incidents Continue

PY131950 Paris AFP in Spanish 1552 GMT 13 Jun 83

[Text] Lima, 13 Jun (AFP) -- It was reported here today that in a surprise and coordinated action, guerrillas blew up three high tension towers last night leaving the city of Cusco in the dark. In addition, guerrillas detonated five dynamite bombs causing the people to panic, in an action that was the first of its kind since the Maoist Shining Path leftist group began operations.

According to reports received by AFP from Cusco this morning, the extremists destroyed the towers and caused some additional damage, but no casualties were reported.

The blackout in the city of Cusco, 1,000 km southeast of Lima, lasted for about 2 hours. It began at 0800 (0100 GMT) when the Picchu and Puquin pylons, which are located in the outskirts of the city and which belong to the Machu Picchu hydroelectric plant, were blown up.

Five powerful dynamite bombs went off in different places of the city as soon as the blackout began. As people panicked along the crowded streets, all buildings closed their doors. Police and Army troops immediately began patrolling the city and detained an undisclosed number of suspects. One of the bombs was thrown at the building of the U.S.-Peruvian Cultural Institute but caused no major damage.

FDR'S UNGO TERMS STONE'S TOUR 'JUST PROBING'

FL132245 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2300 GMT 13 Jun 83

[Text] Mexico City, 13 Jun (NOTIMEX) -- Leader of the FDR Guillermo Ungo today described U.S. Ambassador Richard Stone's tour of Central America as a probing visit because he has not yet committed himself to anything. Interviewed upon his arrival here, the FDR leader said the efforts of the Contadora Group AAC considered to have extensive international support, including that of several U.S. political sectors. On the other hand, he considers the situation in Nicaragua to be one of potential danger of armed confrontation with Honduras, thus affecting Central America. He said the purpose of his visit is to attend a meeting to tomorrow, Tuesday, with several Latin American officials, members of socialist information [informacion socialista]. The meeting, he said, will seek to establish greater coordination, undestanding, and a review of the Central American problem to bring about its settlement.

SOCIALIST PARTIES CRITICIZE STONE'S STATEMENTS

FL132305 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2205 GMT 13 Jun 83

[Text] Mexico City, 13 Jun (NOTIMEX) -- The Popular Socialist Party (PPS) and the Socialist Workers Party (PST) today criticized the statements made the Reagan administration's special envoy to Central America, Richard Stone. PPS spokesman Francisco Ortiz Mendoza said the U.S. diplomat's attempting to deceive the Mexican public but Latin Americans know full well what superpower has looted their resources through transnational consortiums.

PST spokesman Antonio Cadena said the member countries of the Contadora Group have been clear and categorical in stating that the Central American crisis stems exclusively from the political and social oppression to which those nations have been subjected. He stressed that the United States accepts its military presence in the region and is considered as the only superpower that has participated in Central American affairs.

REAGAN'S C.A. POLICY STATEMENT CRITICIZED

PA131404 Mexico City UNOMASUNO in Spanish 8 Jun 83 p 11

[Editorial: "Contradictory Reagan"]

[Text] If we were to take literally the message that President Ronald Reagan sent to Belisario Betancur, his Colombian colleague, in which he said that the United States will make efforts to achieve peace, democracy, and economic development for Central America, we could say that there is a contradiction between what the U.S. Government says and what it does. While Reagan's message says that he is willing to participate peacefully in the Central American conflict, his acts contradict his words, considering that yesterday he announced the explusion of Nicaraguan diplomats and the closure of several Nicaraguan consulates in the United States. Although this was an act of retaliation for the expulsion of U.S. diplomats from Managua, it nevertheless heightens the diplomatic tensions that have been developing in the past months. The expulsion of Nicaraguan diplomats recently ordered by the United States only increases its conflict with Nicaragua; it does not contribute to peace for Central America as Ronald Reagan proposed in his message.

A careful analysis of his message reveals another type of contradiction. Ronald Reagan promises to make an effort to withdraw the advisers, the weapons, and the foreign aid that could be used in overthrowing any government of Central America. When he talks about foreign aid, he is probably referring to the aid that his government gives to the Nicaraguan counterrevolutionaries and to the Salvadoran Army. He may also be referring to the presence of other extracontinental interests, which still have to be confirmed. In fact, the Reagan proposal is based on an image of a Central America in which the forces of the East and West are in conflict. He ignores the fact that this is a direct clash between the Nicaraguan people and U.S. interventionist strategy. When Ronald Reagan demands respect for human rights and the establishment of democratic institutions, he is indirectly encouraging the idea that Sandinism is a repressive and antidemocratic dictatorship imposed by interests alien to the Nicaraguan people.

The risk that this could be the intent of Reagan's letter to the Colombian president resides in the possibility that his demands could be the condition for the withdrawal of military aid. This we surmise from the proposal that only "the forces necessary for defense" will remain in Central America. This is the same stance that the United States has maintained at the Geneva disarmament negotiations: Let the adversary take the first step toward detente. If this is the case, it will never happen.

GOVERNMENT ASSAILS SOUTH AFRICA OVER EXECUTIONS

FL140130 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0055 GMT 14 Jun 83

[Text] Mexico City, 13 Jun (NOTIMEX) -- The Government of Mexico today voiced its repudiation of the execution of three members of the African National Congress [ANC] ordered by the racist regime of South Africa. An official Foreign Secretariat communique noted that the executions were carried out in absolute contempt for the numerous appeals made that the death sentences of the three young nationalists be commuted.

The Mexican Foreign Secretariat's communique stated: The administration of President Miguel de la Madrid, along with the international community, repudiates the execution of three members of the ANC by the racist South African regime.

The communique asserted that, in open contempt for the numerous appeals made by the UN Security Council to have the death sentence commuted, the young nationalists were hanged. Similarly, the communique stated that Mexico considers the attitude of Pretoria irresponsible and that the repression typical of that regime can only result in further violence to add to the suffering of the South African people. The South African people, it noted, will fulfill their aspirations only when conditions permit the effective observance of UN resolutions aimed at putting an end to apartheid.

BRIEFS

MINIMUM WAGE INCREASES -- The Mexican National Commission for Minimum Wages [Comision Nacional de Salarios Minimos] today announced a 15.6-percent increase in the four minimum wages in effect throughout the country. The increase covers only the minimum wages, but these wages are taken as reference points when labor contracts are negotiated. The new minimum wage for the Mexican capital, effective during the next 6 months, will be 530 pesos ($3.5) per day. [Summary] [Hamburg DPA in Spanish 2028 GMT 10 Jun 83 PA]

OFFICERS APPOINTED -- President Miguel de la Madrid Hurtado and National Defense Secretary General Juan Arevalo Gardoqui on 31 May made the following appointments: Division General Arturo Lopez Flores, national defense chief clerk; Division General Jose Miguel Cal y Mayor, in charge of the Social Security Institute for the Mexican Armed Forces; Division General Jose Hernandez Toledo, in charge of the General Personnel Directorate; Brigadier General Manuel Vallejo Montiel, in charge of the General Directorate of Rural Defense; Division General Miguel Angel Godinez Bravo, commander of the 8th Military Zone (Tancol, Tamaulipas); Division General Jesus Castaneda Gutierrez, commander of the 19th Military Zone (Tuxpan, Veracruz); Brigadier General Miguel Egremy Grapain, commander of the 22d Military Zone (Toluca, Mexico State); Infantry Colonel Ramon Ruben Arrieta Hurtado, commander of the 1st Armored Infantry Regiment; Brigadier General Manuel Diaz Escobar, director of the Military School for Application of Infantry, Artillery, Sappers, and Services; and Lieutenant Colonel Manuel Andres Aguirre Palomino, director of the Types of Transmissions Military School. [Summary] [Mexico City EL UNIVERSAL in Spanish 1 Jun 83 p 7 PA]

CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATIC INTERNATIONAL HEAD ARRIVES

PA1123O1 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2300 GMT 10 Jun 83

[Text] Andres Zaldivar, president of the Christian Democratic International, arrived in Panama this afternoon from San Jose, Costa Rica. This visit is part of a Central American tour aimed at learning about the real situation of these countries. Televisora Nacional, Channel 2, obtained the following exclusive statement on his visit.

[Begin recording] [Zaldivar] Well, as president of the Christian Democratic International I have come to visit all the Central American countries, first to learn the real situation of each country and then as an internationalist to support a democratization plan for the entire area, which I believe is the formula to achieve true peace.

[Unidentified reporter] What is your opinion of the Central American situation?

[Zaldivar] I think it is critical, but there is no reason to lose hope or faith in finding a solution.

[Reporter] What solutions do you propose?

[Zaldivar] Well, first we would have to find a pacification and democratization program for the area in which all the democratic sectors would join forces to achieve this objective.

[Reporter] Do you suggest any type of measure to begin this plan?

[Zaldivar] Well, I believe that all concerned would first have to agree that democracy is the only political system in which peace can be achieved.

[Reporter] Do you think the world powers should intervene in the solutions to Central American problems?

[Zaldivar] It depends on what is understood by intervene. If it is to provide good will and the political will to achieve democracy, of course. The entire international community should be behind this objective. We believe in dialogue and reject arms and violence as a political system, as a solution.

[Reporter] What do you think of the Contadora Group?

[Zaldivar] I think it is a positive effort that should be reinforced by further promoting the democratization idea to achieve peace. [end recording]

CHRISTIAN DEMOCRATS EXPRESS SUPPORT OF CONTADORA

PA130453 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 0000 GMT 13 Jun 83

[Text] The Christian Democratic leaders of Central America today supported the pacification efforts of the Contadora Group and suggested that the group meet with other international political organizations in its search for the democratization of Latin America.

In a document called the Panama Declaration, the Christian Democratic leaders who met this week in Panama City suggested that the Contadora Group firmly and urgently promote all the necessary mechanisms to achieve democratization and pacification of the region and asked the international community to offer its support for this effort.

WEEKLY PAPER CITED ON U.S. 'INVASION PLANS'

PA111453 Managua Radio Noticias in Spanish 1200 GMT 10 Jun 83

[Text] The Panamanian weekly BAYANO had denounced the participation of U.S. helicopters in the invasion plans against Nicaragua. The weekly said that the U.S. Government is promoting a plan of general aggression against Nicaragua and El Salvador from the Southern Command based in Panama. The weekly's report adds that some 500 of these counterrevolutionary forces left on 20 March aboard helicopters piloted by U.S. military. The helicopters left from Mocoron, in Puerto Lempira, Honduras, en route to Raiti, located near the border town of Trojes in Nicaraguan territory.

The BAYANO report, which was reproduced by AIP, said that from Mocoron and Puerto Lempira in Honduras territory, Americans use these counterrevolutionary forces as supply sources with the help of a system of antennas built for this purpose. [sentence as heard] The report adds that in the past few days, more than 30 C-130 planes have left for San Jose and from there to Liberia, Costa Rica, under the command of Major Sandoval, a member of the U.S. Armed Forces. The Americans keep a fleet of helicopter gunships in Liberia, BAYANO states. The report adds that Americans have dispatched forces and naval equipment from Rodman Naval Base in Panama to the Fonseca Gulf on the Pacific side, and to Puerto Lempira on the Atlantic side to monitor the communications of the Central American area. They particularly try to spy on Nicaragua and maintain surveillance of naval movements off our coasts.

Another section of the BAYANO report reproduced by AIP says that 50 men are being trained at Fort Gulick and Fort Sherman. These are airborne commandos led by U.S. and Salvadoran officers.

Finally, the report says that these troops include Indians and blacks, all from Honduras. Eight months ago, a similar group was trained at those same forts and in Gamboa, to be sent later to Honduras.

BRIEFS

AMBASSADOR TO ITALY -- Nelva Torrijos de Soler, the new ambassador to Italy, has presented her credentials to Italian President Alessandro Pertini. [Summary] [Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 8 Jun 83 p A-4 PA]

NEW SAHARAN AMBASSADOR -- Hamdi Sidi-Mahmud [name as published] yesterday presented his credentials as the new ambassador to Panama of the Saharan Democratic Arab Republic. [Summary] [Panama City CRITICA in Spanish 10 Jun 83 p 16 PA]

COSTA RICA

CONTADORA TO BE ASKED FOR PERMANENT OBSERVERS

PA122333 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0100 GMT 11 Jun 83

[Text] Acting Foreign Minister Ekhart Peters has said that the Costa Rican Government will ask the Contadora Group to establish a group of permanent observers along the Costa Rican border with Nicaragua. This request, previously presented to the OAS, will be reiterated during the next meeting of the Contadora foreign ministers, to be held during the third week in July in Panama City. Peters added that the idea of permanent observers is to guarantee Costa Rican neutrality in the internal Nicaraguan conflict.

Next week several consultations will be made at different levels in regard to the subject to be brought before the Contadora Group. Among these consultations will be a new meeting with former Costa Rican foreign ministers, who will be informed on the advances achieved and asked for their viewpoints with regard to what should be done. The government believes that in order to truly achieve the purposes of the request made to the OAS it is necessary to clearly state the Costa Rican position of complete neutrality.

VICE PRESIDENT ON VOLUNTEERS READY FOR DEFENSE

PA130003 San Jose LA PRENSA LIBRE in Spanish 2 Jun 83 pp 1, 4

[Excerpt] The National Security Council has a complete list of more than 10,000 Costa Ricans who have volunteered to defend the nation's sovereignty in case of a foreign aggression, Armando Arauz Aguilar, second vice president and coordinator of the National Security Council, disclosed yesterday at a news conference.

Second Vice President Arauz Aguilar also said that the Security Council rejected an offer made to President Luis Alberto Monge by Juan Jose Echeverria, former interior minister in the Carazo administration, of 500 men to patrol the border, because it was considered inappropriate.

Aruaz Aguilar said that the government has the constitutional and legal power to meet its obligations to defend the country's sovereignty. He added that the government appreciates all the offers of cooperation it has received, not only from civic and political organizations but from private citizens as well. In this respect, he said that more than 10,000 Costa Ricans have offered the government their immediate service, the moment it is required of them.

NICARAGUAN DELEGATION VISITS, VIEWS PEACE

PA112015 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0048 GMT 11 Jun 83

[Text] San Jose, 10 Jun (ACAN-EFE) -- Nicaraguan legislators who are visiting this capital have expressed the hope that peace will be achieved with the United States. The lawmakers told ACAN-EFE that Nicaragua hopes a candid dialogue capable of helping solve problems will open between the two governments after the visit by Richard Stone, President Reagan's special envoy.

The official delegation from the Nicaraguan parliament feels that Stone's efforts in the countries on the isthmus and those of the Contadora Group "give flexibility to the U.S. position on Central America and prevent the attacks which groups of former Somozists are carrying out against Nicaragua from Honduras with U.S. support."

They voiced their support for the Contadora Group's peace efforts, which "should bear fruit in order to achieve our own peace and that of the area."

The Nicaraguan mission, which is based by Rafael Solis, first secretary of the Nicaraguan State Council, is in San Jose to formally arrange for consultations regarding the organization of Nicaragua's electoral system. Solis is accompanied by Alma Rosa Acevedo of the Association of Nicaraguan Women; Mauricio Diaz of the Social Christian Party; and Luis Sanchez, secretary general of the Socialist Party.

ARDE'S ROBELO DISMISSES ALLIANCE WITH FDN

PA132035 Buenoa Aires LATIN in Spanish 1645 GMT 13 Jun 83

[Excerpts] San Jose, Costa Rica, 13 Jun (LATIN-REUTER) -- Nicaraguan exiles based in Costa Rica today dismissed the possibility of an alliance with the insurgents fighting the Nicaraguan Government from Honduran territory, because they are led by supporters of the deceased dictator Anastasio Somoza. In a press conference held here, Alfonso Robelo, political leader of the Democratic Revolutionary Alliance (ARDE), said that the military leadership of the Nicaraguan Democratic Force (FDN) based in Honduras is made up exclusively of members of the feared national guard of the former dictator.

Robelo said that an alliance of the two groups was "totally unacceptable, because the military leadership (of the FDN) is made up 100 percent of former members of the National Guard. This poses a problem for the return to power of the guard as a military institution." Robelo left open the possibility of a merger if the FDN changes its military leadership. "Things would change if there were a purge to guarantee that there would not be a return to the past," he said.

MONGE VIEWS SOLUTION OF ICE PROBLEM

PA102115 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1200 GMT 10 Jun 83

[Text] The demands of those sectors affected by the higher electricity rates is just, but resorting to violence is inadmissible, President Luis Alberto Monge has commented. According to the president, the agreement reached is satisfactory, but he also acknowledged that the ICE (Costa Rican Electricity Institute] will have problems developing its expansion programs.

The president reiterated that the extremist groups took advantage of the situation to further their own causes, and that both the laws and the Constitution were violated, affecting various sectors. This, he said, is not in accordance with typical Costa Rican conduct. The government definitely cannot accept the method to which the leftist minority that took advantage of the movement resorted, the president indicated. He noted that this procedure by the extremist minority affected the free circulation of students, workers, and other individuals, who had to walk long distances. The president, however, sounded pleased with the way the conflict was resolved. He also reiterated that at moments of crisis his government heeds the demands of the majorities.

PLANE WITH ARMS REPORTEDLY LANDS IN GUANACASTE

PA141725 San Jose LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 2 Jun 83 p 12

[Text] A mysterious light plane carrying weapons landed at a small private strip in Hatillo, some 30 km from the city of Santa Cruz in Guanacaste Province.

This was stated by Colonel Jose Benito Zeledon, director general of the Rural Police, GAR. Shortly before presenting his resignation, the official said that all available information on this incident would be reported to Armando Arauz, second vice president of the Republic. Zeledon said, "I have reports that the aircraft is a white, twin-engine Piper made in the United States."

Residents near the landing strip confirmed that the light plane had landed. They said that large-caliber weapons had then been unloaded. Asked about the matter, Santa Cruz Canton Delegate Edwin Viales said, "I would be most willing to offer any information, but I have no information on any such landing and even if the landing had occurred, I would not be permitted to tell the press."

Viales said that 60 policemen are stationed in that region, to guard the safety of the U.S. sappers known as Seabees. The Seabees are drilling 30 wells to alleviate the drought in Guanacaste Province.

BRIEFS

FOREIGN DEBT -- Rodolfo Silva Vargas, minister counsellor for foreign debt matters, has reported at a luncheon of the Chamber of Industries that Costa Rica's foreign debt totals $4 billion, of which $3.3 billion is owed by the public sector and $700 million by the private sector. [Summary] [San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1200 GMT 9 Jun 83 PA]

EL SALVADOR

ARMY CLASHES WITH GUERRILLAS REPORTED

PA130307 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 0025 GMT 13 Jun 83

[Text] The "Sunday Focus on the News" program has received reports today, Sunday, that a large rebel group in the Sacamil Hill area, near Suchitoto, early this morning tried to ambush an Armed Forces patrol on a cleanup operation to clear the area of subversive redoubts. The rebels were discovered by the patrol, with which they exchanged gunfire for approximately 3 hours. So far there has been no report of casualties from either side.

From the eastern zone, we have received reports indicating that groups of leftist rebels have been harassing Army surveillance posts and military units along the coastal highway, near Tierra Blanca and Jiquilisco. According to the report, more than three rebels were killed by Atonal Battalion units repelling rebel attacks on the coastal highway early today. The report says that the Armed Forces did not suffer any casualties.

Another report says that the largest military operation the Armed Forces has carried out this year, with the participation of 6,000 soldiers including units of the specialized battalions trained by the United States, failed to locate the rebels and rebel camps on Chichontepec Volcano, which according to military intelligence were in that steep region 50 km east of San Salvador. The report says that apparently the leftists learned of the vast operation and simply abandoned their positions.

Meanwhile, the rebels have been carrying out harassment activities in the past hours near Tecoluca. Military sources in San Vicente have reported that for 4 days, including today, Sunday, there has been no shooting on Chichontepec Volcano, nor have there been any armed clashes.

The "Sunday Focus on the News" program also learned that a large guerrilla group was discovered near El Pepeto, a village located barely 1 km from an Air Force base. The report says there was an intense shootout, but it does not say anything about casualties, nor about the use of helicopters.

San Vicente Cleanup Continues

PA132052 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1800 GMT 13 Jun 83

[Text] As the reconstruction campaign continues on the part of the San Vicente Department Army forces, particularly to clean up the Chichontepec volcano area, the leftist guerrillas being tracked on the volcano attacked the community of Tecoluca at dawn this morning. So far, the scant information received indicates that a small farm called La Canas was attacked by the leftists, but no mention was made of casualties on either side.

The reports are that a large number of guerrillas headed for Usulutan after learning of the San Vicente operation. Meanwhile, last Sunday morning the rebels entered Tenancingo, in Cuscatlan, without meeting any resistance, according to official reports. The guerrillas reached the town early to buy foodstuff in the few stores left after last month's attack. The town is almost deserted because, following the attack, 75 percent of the population left, leaving behind only those who had no way to get to other areas. Tenancingo, only 35 km from the capital, was left incommunicado as a result of the first attack, without bus transportation or military authorities, according to official information.

Subversive Attacks Cause Casualties

PA132314 San Salvador EL DIARIO DE HOY in Spanish 13 Jun 83 p 8, 23

[Text] It has been learned that two attacks by subversives inflicted three casualties on the Army yesterday and a military patrol repelled a leftist incursion in Soyapango (San Salvador) early yesterday morning.

Sources indicated that near Suchitoto, about 45 km east of San Salvador, the Army and subversives fought for 3 hours yesterday morning in the area of Zacamil Hill. Official reports indicated that the Army occupied the hill and killed five individuals. In San Vicente Department, the guerrillas attacked the Jiboa sugarmill near Chichontepec Volcano, where two soldiers were killed.

In Soyapango, an Army patrol detected a group of guerrillas early in the morning only 2 km from the main runway of the military airport. A soldier was killed in the fighting. An Air Force spokesman said they do not know if the rebels suffered any casualties.

Chichontepec Operation Continues

PA132325 San Salvador EL DIARIO DE HOY in Spanish 13 Jun 83 pp 9, 44

[Text] The Air Force today bombed the Chichontepec Volcano as part of a large-scale antiguerrilla operation which the Armed Forces began yesterday, military sources in the area have reported. Colonel Dionisio Hernandez, departmental commander of San Vicente, 60 km east of San Salvador, said that the 6,000 soldiers who are participating in the operation have not met great resistance from the leftists who operate on the volcano.

The commander said that on their way to the top, the Armed Forces have found many camps abandoned by the subversives, possibly well in advance. According to the military report, the insurgents last night attacked the Jiboa sugarmill, 7 km south of the volcano. A national guardsman was killed and another wounded in that attack.

Operation "Welfare for San Vicente" has been begun for the purpose of undertaking actions of defense, pacification and reconstruction of the area, which is described as a strong and strategic guerrilla bastion.

Welfare Operation Outlined

PA122243 San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish 11 Jun 83 pp 5, 48

[Excerpt] The Armed Forces, in combination with the Ministries of Health, Public Works, and Agriculture, as well as other state institutions, are implementing a very ambitious pacification operation in San Vicente Department.

The Armed Forces Press Committee, COPREFA, reports that the operation, which consists of health care, first aid, and reconstruction planning, is being implemented with the participation of some 6,000 soldiers, doctors, nurses, social workers, psychologists, dentists, and other auxiliary units, who are taking care of hundreds of families in urgent need of food, medicine, medical care, and other attention.

The Armed Forces have launched this operation, which has been given the name "Welfare Operation for San Vicente," in response to requests from various sectors of San Vicente Department. Military and civilian units are participating in this operation to try and alleviate the hardships of the inhabitants of the region, which is disturbed by terrorist activities and the presence of subversive groups who are interfering with agricultural, commercial, and industrial activities, COPREFA pointed out.

The work is intense. For the past 3 days, the Army has been carrying out practice artillery fire aimed at supposed extremist positions on Chichontepec Volcano and Ramirez Hill in San Vicente Department. The operation is having positive results, according to military spokesmen. The practice artillery fire has had a two-fold purpose: to train troops in the use of artillery, and to try to locate and attack the extremist's positions on Chichontepec Volcano and Ramirez Hill.

The artillery has been fired from a distance of 8 to 10 km from the targets. The results have yet to be determined. The objective of these exercises has been to decimate the extremist's positions, not to seize their positions, the military spokesmen added.

The "Welfare Operation for San Vicente" is a civilian-military operation, based on a thorough study of the extremists' positions, the damage done to defenseless towns by the subversive groups, the population's needs, and the means available to carry out the operation. So far, thousands of citizens have received medical care, food, and protection, COPREFA reported.

Meanwhile, the infantry continues to advance in various directions in San Vicente Department, with the support of the Salvadoran Air Force, helicopters, and artillery fire.

The "Welfare Operation for San Vicente" is being directed by Colonel Reynaldo Goldscher, with the cooperation of military units of the Army's 5th Brigade, the Atlacatl Battalion, the Belloso Battalion, and other branches of the Armed Forces.

We were told that this operation is going to continue and that similar operations are going to be implemented in other regions of the country where the presence of terrorist groups warrants it.

During yesterday's actions, traffic on the eastern part of the Panamerican Highway, in the sector between Santo Domingo and Cuscatlan Bridge, was temporarily interrupted. The Armed Forces announced yesterday that the results of this operation will be made known to the public when it is concluded.

No End to Chichontepec Campaign

PA140020 San Salvador EL DIARIO DE HOY in Spanish 13 Jun 83 p 9, 52

[Excerpts] San Vicente -- The Salvadoran Army military operation on Chichontepec Volcano is aimed at clearing the area of subversives. The 5th Infantry Brigade, several counterinsurgency battalions, artillery battalions, and Air Force units are participating.

So far, more than 120 hours have been spent in the cleanup operation. It has yet to be decided when the operation will end. The citizens have expressed satisfaction at the military operation and hope they will soon be able to return to their normal activities as a result of the cleanup operation by the armed branch of the people.

6 MONTHS NEEDED TO RESTORE COMMUNICATIONS

PA131410 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 0025 GMT 13 Jun 83

[Text] Spokesmen for the National Administration for Telecommunications, ANTEL, announced today that it will take at least 6 months to restore communications with the east. Communications with the Departments of La Union, Morazan, San Miguel, and Usulutan cannot be fully restored before the end of the year due to the damage to the transmission network and special communications rooms in the station at El Pacayal.

According to the ANTEL sources, by sheer coincidence, 2 days earlier the communications channels had been linked through the microwave station, or Izalco ground station, to the rest of the continent, especially to Central and South America. Had this not been done, communications with South America and parts of Central America would have been totally disrupted.

The damage caused by the destruction of the transmission station at El Pacayal, in San Miguel Department, reportedly exceeds $2 million.

PEACE COMMISSION REITERATES CALL FOR DIALOGUE

PA121900 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSU in Spanish 1800 GMT 11 Jun 83

[By Marco Aleman]

[Excerpt] Today we will speak with Francisco Quinones, member of the Peace Commission of our country, who has important information for the Salvadoran people. The information is apparently related to what the FMLN-FDR leaders reportedly said concerning the country's political situation and a letter sent to Mr Richard Stone, President Reagan's special envoy to our country.

[Quinones] Good morning. As I said during this morning's press conference on behalf of the Peace Commission and as its coordinator, we have fundamentally reiterated the Peace Commission's position on dialogue. This position was widely publicized both here and abroad. We have clearly stated that we are willing to hold talks with everyone, including the FDR, in order to learn, be heard, and listen to whatever positions they may have concerning the democratic process that this country has clearly been undergoing since 28 March 1982.

In effect, at the end of May the Peace Commission made a clear invitation to all, I repeat, to all, including the FDR. If they clearly and genuinely wish for a democratic process and to live in a democratic atmosphere, the Peace Commission is willing and able to hear their opinions concerning their participation in the elections that have been clearly announced by President Magana. These elections will be held in El Salvador before the end of this year.

We met this morning to reiterate the invitation and to let the national and international news media know that the Peace Commission is not avoiding these conversations. On the contrary, we encourage and seek them in order to find out once and for all who wants peace via negotiations, a democratic solution in this country. I repeat: It is in this context that we have made this morning's statement.

PRELATE DEPLORES SLAUGHTER, URGES END TO WAR

PA132210 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2153 GMT 12 Jun 83

[Text] San Salvador, 12 Jun (ACAN-EFE) -- Monsignor Arturo Rivera y Damas today stressed that war must be humanized in El Salvador, while charging that 111 people died this week in battles, military operations, occupations of towns, and murders.

During Sunday's homily at the Metropolitan Cathedral, Rivera y Damas said that the main concern of every Salvadoran should be to humanize, shorten, and resolve the war in order to work on constructing peace. "I must raise my voice in view of this week's painful toll of 111 dead, because it is necessary to stamp out the violence that has taken so many victims, through a meeting of those of us who are separated for political, economic, social, and ideological reasons," the prelate said.

He emphasized that the destruction of the infrastructure must cease and that the allegation that the destruction is aimed at making the government invest U.S. aid in repairs "does not convince anybody particularly, because the damage is virtually irreparable." The prelate said that the increase in official arrests contradicts the amnesty law. "Let us hope that these people will either be placed at the disposal of the military judge in Mariona as soon as possible or released," he said.

He added that the Salvadoran Workers Union Federation [Federacion Sindical de Trabajadores Salvadorenos] asked him to report the arrest of Florencio Alas Hernandez and his immediate release. The archbishop said that the parents of Lieutenant Cadet Andres Avelino Flores, who is being held prisoner by the guerrillas, asked him to intercede for his release.

He pointed to press reports that the elections scheduled for December will be postponed. There is also talk, he said, about the training of Salvadoran soldiers by the United States in Honduras. "Everybody is talking about peace from his own rigid and unyielding standpoint," he said.

PARTIES COMMENT ON ELECTION POSTPONEMENT RUMORS

PA140120 San Salvador EL MUNDO in Spanish 11 Jun 83 p 3

[Text] "Christian Democracy will struggle so that the presidential elections scheduled for this year will be held in the second half of November," Julio Adolfo Rey Prendes, secretary general of the Christian Democratic Party [PDC], has stated to EL MUNDO. The political leader said that this was the last agreement reached by the national leadership, and he expressed surprise about the rumor that the elections are going to be postponed for at least 2 years.

Rey Prendes said that the PDC will struggle to see that party commitments will be respected and that there is no reason this year's elections should be postponed. Regarding rumors that President Magana's government will be prolonged and that it will be given power to appoint its own cabinet, Rey Prendes said that "this is practically a coup d'etat and the PDC will not permit it."

The PDC leader said that the rumor about postponing elections did not come from the Nationalist Republican Alliance, ARENA, but "from another sector that is perhaps interested in that." "It did not come from ARENA," Rey Prendes said. Leaders of this party [not further identified] also said that they are not interested in such a postponement and that the best thing would be to hold elections as soon as possible.

On their part, the nine deputies who were formerly of the National Conciliation Party, PCN, and who are now of the Salvadoran Authentic Institutional Party, PAISA, said they are "surprised by the rumor and see no future to it." They said that PAISA wants the elections to be held as soon as possible, but guaranteed by an electoral registry.

The PAISA deputies said that the new party has already organized cadres in many departments and they would be willing to participate in the elections this year. The PCN and the Democratic Action party showed some reserve about the rumors. It is not known whether the two parties also have cadres throughout the country.

ARENA MEMBERS TRAINING IN PSYCHOLOGICAL WARFARE

PA131447 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 0025 GMT 13 Jun 83

[Text] Spokesmen for the Nationalist Republican Alliance, ARENA, told this information service today that ARENA officials and members will continue to receive technical training in the next few days. They will be sent to Taiwan to train in psychological warfare.

The first group has already returned to the country and, naturally, is now prepared to teach other ARENA cadres. According to the party's report, this psychological warfare training is primarily intended to counteract what they regard as a well-established network of war propaganda by the extreme left.

BULGARIAN DAILY INTERVIEWS SALVADORAN GUERRILLA

AU091647 Sofia RABOTNICHESKO DELO in Bulgarian 6 Jun 83 p 6

[Unattributed interview: "Morale Is Not Bought With Dollars"; talk with Commandante Octavio of the "Modesto Ramirez" Central Front in El Salvador; date, place not given]

[Text] The hilly area of Guazapa, which has become an invincible guerrilla stronghold, is only 24 km from San Salvador. Its strategic military position near the nerve center of the country's political life compels the enemy to constantly maintain military contingents in and wage an offensive against Guazapa.

In the village where it was possible to have a talk with Commandante Octavio there are obvious traces of the bombings, dozens of dead animals lying on the nearby paths and roads, and burned-out crops. These are the results of an unsuccessful offensive by the 3,000-man puppet Army dispatched by the antipeople Salvadoran regime against the "Modesto Ramirez" Central Guerrilla Front.

Comandante Octavio is one of the guerrilla commanders of the Farabundo Marti Front for National Liberation and chief of the general staff of the armed liberation forces.

[Question] Commandante, what led you to join the revolutionary struggle and the ranks of the armed liberation forces?

[Answer] The struggle of our people in the seventies played a major role in their political education and maturity. These struggles caused a mass expansion in the revolutionary organizations of workers, students, specialists, merchants, and other strata of the people.

I am the son of a peasant. I later became a blue-collar worker. I also joined the trade union movement. I heard the first lectures on Marxism-Leninism there and later joined the Salvadoran Communist Party. My proletarian awareness was raised in its ranks and I decided to devote my life to this sturggle. When a military training campaign began in the party's ranks, I also joined it. In 1979 I was elected a member of the Salvadoran Communist Party Central Committee and later became a member of the Political Commission.

[Question] Would you tell us about the armed liberation forces of the Salvadoran Communist Party and about their beginnings and development? What is their present organizational level?

[Answer] In 1979, at the Seventh Salvadoran Communist Party Congress, a military-political line was adopted which called for basic training and organization of the armed struggle. Thus, the first combat units of the party appeared and the armed liberation forces were created. They were brought about by the need to make a qualitative leap in the struggle of the communists, so that we could be in harmony with the conditions required by the struggle in El Salvador at that time. The response of the party and of the communist youth organization to the appeal of the seventh congress was unanimous, and in a short period of time our army was ready to inflict effective blows on the enemy. Our armed liberation forces rapidly became groups of army detachments and companies. Now we have guerilla combat units at all fronts, and we have also formed movable strategic units which will raise our combat capability onto a higher qualitative level.

[Question] Would you tell us something about the everyday life of the guerrillas of the "Modesto Ramirez" Central Front?

[Answer] Life in our front is as it is in every other place where a new free territory has been gained. It is full of various activities beginning with political, production, and combat activities, which are the most important. The soldiers and civilians are educated, and big political holidays are celebrated with the purpose of strengthening the revolutionary awareness of the people who have rebelled. We also celebrate birthdays and anniversaries -- in a word, we have time for everything, and we join both the struggles and the festive events with the same enthusiasm.

[Question] How are the civilians participating in the revolutionary process in the areas liberated by the Front for National Liberation, and how are their spirits?

[Answer] The civilian population actively participates in various tasks during military operations -- they assist in the movement of guerrillas, they are involved in supply activity, cultural developments, collecting information and also in many tasks connected with strengthening the new power in the liberated areas. I would like to emphasize that the population accepts and accomplishes the revolutionary tasks with enthusiasm which, in turn, increases the combat possibilities of our army, because this offers us an opportunity to free many soldiers from nonmilitary tasks. Thus, the civilian population in the liberated areas makes its own contribution to the struggle against the dictatorship by exercising the new power at the same time. That is why the Army fiercely retaliates against the civilian population through air raids, mass heavy artillery, and machinegun and missile attacks which are destroying houses and sowing death and destruction. After each enemy attack hundreds of civilians die. Despite this, however, the enemy cannot succeed in disuniting the people's masses, and after each struggle the unity between the guerrillas and the people is strengthened even more.

[Question] The 53d anniversary of the founding of the Salvadoran Communist Party was marked recently. What is the meaning of this anniversary now that the armed struggle of the country is intensifying and U.S. imperialism is striving to use new forms of antiguerrilla struggle to stop the liberation process?

[Answer] The accumulated experience is great and the changes that have emerged are essential. We have travelled a difficult road and when victory gets closer we will understand this road more easily through hindsight. The people's revolutionary war which our people are waging has advanced a great deal and the present struggles reflect the successes achieved. Regardless of the fact that imperialism is trying to liquidate us with all means, it has not achieved a single serious victory up to now. And, what is more, the Farabuno Marti Front has a true revolutionary army which is achieving victory after victory.

The enemy was reinforced with more supplies and better equipment, including air technology, bombs, chemical weapons, and with more U.S. advisers. The aim was to take the initiative into its own hands. These efforts, however, were not crowned with success because they were invested in an unjust war. We are steadily maintaining our combat readiness and high combat spirit, which is one of the important elements for victory in this war. This is actually the factor which is lacking in the ranks of the enemy, whose morale is constantly going down despite all the dollars in the world being spent for this purpose.

Our party contributes to these victories. We Communists have matured and developed in the frontline of fire, and that is why we are part of the vanguard. We continue to struggle and we will not rest until we achieve victory.

RADIO VENCEREMOS ON ELECTIONS, STONE VISIT

PA122219 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0230 GMT 12 Jun 83

[Text] The heated debates of the rightist opportunistic political parties continue, aimed at deciding whether to hold elections in December or postpone them until March 1984, or whether they should be definitely set for March 1986.

These discussions were provoked by the fascist rightist sectors to create a crisis and gain time and political ground for the upcoming electoral farce.

The repeated advancements and postponements of the date for the so-called elections only show that the elections have become a game that has lost all political value and credibility. And this is so simply because the elections for the dictatorship and imperialism are not a means to solve the conflict affecting our country, but merely political cover for the interventionist plan in El Salvador.

The electoral farce is their justification for the growing military aid and increasing presence of U.S. military personnel in our country. It is also their justification for continuing the war against our people, because the enemies of our people could care less whether their masquerade is postponed for 6 months or 2 years. However, they continue to stress their plans for imperialistic military intervention against our people.

How then can Richard Stone, Reagan's super traveling salesman, offer participation in elections as a formula to solve the conflict, when the elections have lost their value, and even their own Salvadoran lackeys have further destroyed their credibility?

The entire show of the rightist opportunistic political parties is clearly displaying to the people that neither imperialism nor the oligarchy can bring peace, democracy, or the revolutionary changes required by our country. These can only be attained through the people's armed action against the dictatorship.

Defends Use of Sabotage

PA101602 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0230 GMT 8 Jun 83

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] The people's organized sabotage has been an effective and powerful weapon in the struggle against the dictatorship and imperialist intervention. [Words indistinct followed by 13-second break in transmission] and (?along the path of) organized sabotage. How cynical and shameless. When have the dictatorship and the oligarchic millionaires worried about the people's living conditions? Social statistics point their accusatory finger at the oppressors. Haven't most Salvadorans always lived without electricity, while health conditions and their illiteracy have always been disastrous? The dictatorship, therefore, should not appear now as the people's redeemer, since it is responsible for [word indistinct] and genocide.

We have blown up bridges to stop the dictatorship's policy of destroying entire cantons and villages. We have destroyed strategic installations in order to force the Army to stop eliminating families and burning down huts and crops. We have cut off communications in order to stop the tortures and disappearances of revolutionaries and patriots at the hands of the repressive bodies. We have blown up electrical towers and have affected the economy in order to stem the policy of terror that the dictatorship has implemented throughout our homeland.

We must feel proud of our ability in handling explosives, but the high command cannot feel proud of its guilt in the genocide perpetrated. The damage is temporary and can be repaired, but the cost in human lives, the suffering, and the moral and psychological damage that the dictatorship has inflicted on the people can be neither justified nor repaid. This damage is irreparable.

For our part, we will continue with our line of sabotage because, with it the dictatorship and its genocidal line will more than likely be defeated. There may be 200 bridges, there may be 500 towers, but in our homeland there are also millions of Salvadorans with dignity and libertarian aspirations. After all, this is an open war between those who want to continue oppressing both the people and the national sovereignty, and those who want to liberate them.

In any bloody war, like the one we are currently waging, the economy is the target. That is why we attack it. Through organized sabotage we have reduced the offensive capacity of the dictatorship's Army and we have forced them to engage forces in protecting their strategic infrastructure. Each economically important bridge and installation represents hundreds of men whom the high command cannot use in its fight against the people's forces.

For the FMLN, for the revolutionary struggle, sabotage is the expression of a powerful anti-imperialist weapon. In an abusive manner, Ronald Reagan has sent millions of dollars in weapons to develop the dictatorship's genocidal line and to wage war on the people. We cannot remain indifferent to this. We must exhaust and neutralize that aid. This is why we promote sabotage, because our purpose is to keep those millions of dollars from bolstering and upholding the dictatorship's Army. With our activities we are forcing them to invest in reconstructing the destroyed infrastructures. This is why sabotage is a powerful anti-imperialist weapon.

We have sworn that either the homeland will be for all, or it shall be for none. Vicotry, however, is close at hand. Today's sacrifice will be tomorrow's reconstruction in peace and freedom.

REBELS CLAIM QUEBRADA SECA BRIDGE DESTROYED

PA140428 (Clandestine) Radio Farabundo Marti in Spanish to El Salvador 0100 GMT 14 Jun 83

[Text] Your attention Salvadoran people: These are Farabundo's victorious forces outwitting the enemy's encirclement on the Chichontepec Volcano. For the second time in less than a month, and in the midst of a gigantic annihilation encirclement carried out by the genocidal puppet Army, our forces blew up the Quebrada Bridge in the heroic San Vicente Department early this morning.

The sappers of the people's army in the Anastasio Aquino Paracentral Front, outwitting the enemy in the double encirclement it has thrown around the people in Chichontepec, at approximately 0300 on 13 June blew up the Quebrada Seca Bridge, which was rebuilt by the invader U.S. advisers. In the efforts to repair [words indistinct] the forces under Colonel Dionisio Hernandez [words indistinct] bombs dropped on the civilian population, thousands of bullets fired, more than 320 mortar rounds, hundreds of M-79 grenades, all this brutality to try to annihilate or dislodge the hardworking people from the hillsides of the Chichontepec Volcano.

The fact is that Quebrada Seca is again a sealed obstacle on the Pan-american Highway, and useless Col Hernandez met the bravery, audacity, and power of the descendants of Anastasio Aquino. We salute Companeros Quico and Miguel and all the warriors who broke through the encirclement to blow up the Quebrada Seca Bridge.

After blowing up the Quebrada Seca Bridge, another guerrilla unit under Companero Chamba carried out a harassment operation, for the second time since the enemy tried to encircle our forces, at the Lempa River Hydroelectric Executive Commission, CEL, site at km 76 of the Sacatecoluca-San Vicente Highway.

Once again our warriors outwitted the drowsy troops of the useless Col Hernandez. This took place at approximately 0300 this morning near the Quebrada Seca Bridge, blown up by our sappers for the second time. Anastasio Aquino's heroic people are proud of our brave companeros who carried out this operation under the noses of the genocidal puppet Army. [Words indistinct]

The genocidal troops on the Tecoluca-Sacatecoluca Highway received no respite from our forces. Early this morning our companeros, under Companero Elmer, attacked the invading genocidal troops on this highway to prevent them from joining the rest of the forces of the genocidal Dionisio Hernandez. This is how Farabundo's forces are fighting.

Viva, heroic sons of Anatasio Aquino! Withi this first step, the guerrilla army moves to seize power.

GUATEMALA

RIOS MONTT ON TALKS WITH STONE, ELECTIONS

PA132150 Guatemala City Domestic Service in Spanish 0200 GMT 13 Jun 83

[Weekly speech to the nation by Guatemalan President General Efrain Rios Montt; place not given -- live or recorded]

[Excerpt] Ambassador Richard Stone, who was sent to all of Central America by President Reagan, visited Guatemala yesterday. He came to talk with me here. We discussed what we had to discuss on the Central American area. There were no secrets. We do not... [changes thought] In the first place we are not for sale, and we do not want to buy, because we do not have any foreign exchange. That would be point one.

We didn't ask for anything, because we know we will get nothing. We are blocked by the Senate and Congress. What is really important is that the United States is interested in Central America because of its national security. And listen to me carefully, isn't the United States going to be interested in this area if Guatemala City is closer to Los Angeles than Los Angeles is to New York? Do you understand? The United States must be interested in the Central American area. Nevertheless, we did not ask for anything.

What we did ask Ambassador Stone was to say at his press conference that we will hold elections for a constituent assembly in the second half of 1984. That is all. After this, nothing special happened. We greeted each other. We saw that there is a really strategic concept, a global concept, a concept of security. In addition, I told them we need friends, but friends we can lean on. Please, you don't want us as friends because we are ill, we are a little ignorant, we are poor. What kind of friends can we be? Give us the opportunity to be ourselves.

There is another thing I want to tell you. The socail manipulators are preparing to confuse the people even more. The institutions have standards, principles, and an internal regime. The Guatemalan Army is an institution governed by its own regulations and its own laws. General Echeverria published a letter that someone wrote for him. This is against the institutions, against the regulations, and against the Army's own laws, and we discharged him. The politicians and the manipulators will now use him. Echeverria knew better, particularly because -- as he said -- he is the senior general. Imagine! If he is the senior general, the fault he committed is all the more serious. My poor friend Gen Echeverria was manipulated, and it will not work like that; the institution comes first.

We must realize there are many charlatans and many fortune-tellers. There are experts. The fascists and the communists are experts at the cold war, in blows and counterblows; the fascists and communists. Beware of the fascists and the communists. Beware! Look. Let no one confuse you. Do your duty. Be a good father, a worthy mother, a respectful son. Support your family. We support the fatherland by supporting the family. You are Guatemala. Thank you.

HAVANA ON POLITICAL 'CRISIS,' STONE VISIT

PA130012 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 12 Jun 83

[Text] Diplomatic circles in Guatemala City have said that the military regime headed by Efrain Rios Montt is experiencing the worst crisis of its 14 months of government due to the growing opposition of most of the country's representative sectors. They recalled that last week Guatemalan authorities were strongly criticized by the political parties, the press, the Catholic Church, and even high-ranking officers who declared themselves in favor of an immediate call for elections to form a constituent assembly.

The diplomatic circles added that this reaction against the Guatemalan regime became greater when the tax reform that the tyranny plans to enforce was denounced because it will cause a drastic increase of inflation at a time when unemployment continues to grow.

They also pointed out that the critical situation faced by the Guatemalan Government was demonstrated in a public letter written by one of the highest-ranking officers in the country, General Guillermo Echeverria, who demanded general elections, the suspension of the tax reforms, and the return of the soldiers to their headquarters.

Richard Stone, U.S. ambassador at large for Central America, met in Guatemala City with Guatemalan President Efrain Rios Montt, with whom he discussed Central American problems. The U.S. diplomat also met with Defense Minister Oscar Mejia and Foreign Minister Eduardo Castillo.

A U.S. Embassy spokesman in Guatemala City told the press that Richard Stone will hold a short press conference today before he leaves for Belize, the ninth stop of this Latin American tour that will end in Mexico.

SUBVERSIVES AMBUSH ARMY TRUCK, KILL 10

PA140225 Guatemala City Radio Nuevo Mundo in Spanish 1200 GMT 13 Jun 83

[Text] An official report indicated that on Saturday night a truck with troops who were on a security mission was ambushed by several unidentified armed individuals who set off a claymore mine near El Socorro farm, Acatenango Municipality, Chimaltenango Department. The military report indicated that 10 soldiers aboard the military truck died from wounds caused by the explosion of the terrorist device. Shooting broke out between the security forces and the unidentified individuals, who fled when they saw they were outnumbered. Five insurgents died in the fighting after the explosion.

The official Army spokesman has issued a list of the dead soldiers.

HONDURAS

COMMUNIQUE ISSUED ON MILITARY TRAINING CENTER

PA131353 Tegucigalpa Domestic Service in Spanish 1130 GMT 13 Jun 83

["Official communique" issued by the Honduran Armed Forces Public Relations Directorate, on 11 June in Tegucigalpa -- read by announcer]

[Text] 1. The Honduran Government, by virtue of the negotiations that have been conducted between representatives of the Honduran Armed Forces and the U.S. Government for the purpose of establishing a center for military training and security in this country -- as announced to the public through a press communique issued by this directorate on 26 May 1983 -- has accepted the establishment of the terms of reference by which this center would function. The major purpose of this center would be to train Honduran military units in Colon Department.

2. On the basis of these terms of reference, the center may invite participants from other countries through the suitable mechanisms agreed on for this purpose.

3. To establish the center, the Honduran Government will receive funds and military and security advice from the U.S. Government, but the Honduran Armed Forces will be in charge of the center's command and operation.

PNH LEADER VIEWS MILITARY BASE ISSUE

PA140232 Tegucigalpa Voz de Honduras in Spanish 1145 GMT 13 Jun 83

[Interview with Nicolas Cruz Torres, member of the Central Committee of the National Party of Honduras, by Danilo Izaguirre; date and place not given -- recorded]

[Excerpt] [Izaguirre] As a member of the National Party of Honduras [PNH] Central Committee, what is your party's position on the planned military base to train Salvadorans in Honduras?

[Cruz] We cannot yet issue a position because we do not know if this training base is the result of a new agreement between the Honduran and U.S. Governments, or if it is the result of a simple annex to the mutual assistance agreement signed in 1954. I can tell you that the PNH believes that technical and academic preparation of the members of the Honduran Armed Forces is necessary. However, we view the training of Salvadoran troops in our country as very dangerous, because in the first place the Salvadoran aggression against our country in 1969 over immigration policies and the lack of border delimitation is still fresh in our minds.

Secondly, there is an internal war, a civil war, in that country and the training of Salvadoran troops in Honduras would mean that in one way or another we would be taking sides in that war. This might bring future reprisals against our country in many fields, which would not only affect the armed forces but also the economic sector and the population in general. This could bring about attacks on our communications, electric power installations, and industrial and commercial centers. We must study this with our feet on the ground. As Abraham Lincoln used to say, the legs always have to be long enough so that the feet will touch the ground. This is a very complex aspect that must be handled with the necessary responsibility.

CGT REFUSES TO SUPPORT CTH STRIKE CALL

PA131704 Tegucigalpa Cadena Audio Video in Spanish 1145 GMT 13 Jun 83

[Report by Alfonso Anariva Calix from San Pedro Sula -- live or recorded]

[Text] Here is a report from the northern part of the country: The General Workers' Confederation, CGT, which has more than 50,000 members throughout the country, has announced that it will not support the strike called by the Honduran Workers Federation, CTH, in view of the government's refusal to dismiss Labor Secretary Dario Humberto Montes. CGT leader Felicito Avila said there are more urgent matters that require the government's attention. He added: Nevertheless, we think that President Roberto Suazo Cordova has the last word on the CTH demand. Avila stressed that the CGT urges all workers to join forces to solve labor problems.

In addition, the CGT has protested the arrest of Romulo Cruz, leader of the Piedras Azules Honduran Cement Industries, INCEHSA, workers union. Cruz was arrested when he returned from Costa Rica, where he represented this worker-peasant organization at a meeting sponsored by the Central American Institute of Social Studies [Instituto Centro Americano de Estudios Sociales]. Cruz, who was originally from Comayagua, was arrested at the Toncontin Airport by presumed agents of the Department of National Investigation, DIN.

STATION COMMENTARY QUESTIONS STONE VISIT

PA102100 Tegucigalpa Cadena Audio Video in Spanish 1145 GMT 10 Jun 83

[Station commentary: "A New Roving Ambassador Arrives"]

[Excerpts] The term roving ambassador is again in fashion now that Mr Richard Stone, a special envoy with this pompous title, has come to the country representing U.S. President Ronald Reagan. This title was also used by French President Francois Mitterrand's representative, Antoine Blanca. As one can see, roving ambassadors -- it almost sounds like wandering -- are not officials with a permanent post, but with an itinerary to cover.

We have no trust, much less admiration, for this kind of special ambassador. It seems to us they are like comets trying to impress people with their passage. But their lack of decisionmaking leads the Central American peoples to disregard their presence. Let's see: What can Mr Stone do that the U.S. President doesn't do? What does he learn in these hasty tours that the U.S. Embassies in these countries -- which are here permanently, have qualified personnel, and inform Washington on a daily basis about what we are doing and what we think about U.S. policy in these Central American countries -- don't already know?

What power does Stone have that the U.S. President doesn't already have to bring to Central America? Ambassador Stone is bringing nothing but the impression that he can speak very clear Spanish, which shows that he is a gringo who has identified himself with our language. The rest is just ridiculous diplomatic rigmarole, as was shown yesterday when all the cabinet members rushed in front of the cameras to pose with the U.S. envoy.

We don't see any reason for the United States to continue thinking that it will keep the Central American peoples dormant with these attitudes of domination. It will take something else to convince the peoples, who have shown their alliance over time, to continue being U.S. allies.

What's the use of Mr Stone's presence, when in Washington Pentagon members are putting President Suazo Cordova and the entire Honduran Government in a ridiculous position, stressing over and over again that it is true that 120 advisers are being sent to the Puerto Castilla military base to train 2,400 Salvadoran soldiers? Why do they send a social ambassador who forces us to hold pompous receptions like the one yesterday, when decisions already made are being reaffirmed in Washington? These are decisions that are putting our government in a ridiculous position, because it continues to deny that an agreement exists for the installation of a military base where, according to the Pentagon, Salvadoran troops will be trained.

Nobody is opposed to having the United States train the Salvadorans. In fact, we think it would balance the Salvadoran civil war, because if Russians and Cubans are training Salvadorans it is the United States' duty to help the Salvadoran Army. But why doesn't the United States train the Salvadoran soldiers in its own territory instead of using Honduras for this training? [brief break in transmission]... Central American situation. They don't understand that in endorsing this military base to us they have knocked down the principle of neutrality that was the best banner Honduras could have waved in its campaign to internationalize peace. We ask: Why have they sent a roving or wandering ambassador when the Pentagon has already spoken for the Honduran Government, clearly announcing that Honduras has agreed to become a U.S. base within the framework of the participation of the great nation of the North in the Central American conflict?

NICARAGUA

MANAGUA REPORTS CANCELING OF AERONICA PERMIT

PA110155 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 10 Jun 83

[Text] The Reagan administration has taken another and unexpected reprisal against the Nicaraguan people and revolutionary government by canceling Aeronica Airline flights to Miami, according to a UPI report. This new reprisal by Ronald Reagan's imperialist government is the sequel to the immature and unreasonable decision taken last Tuesday to close six Nicaraguan Consulates in main cities of the United States.

These aggressive measures have been taken in retaliation against a sovereign act carried out by the Nicaraguan Revolutionary Government, which consisted in the expulsion of three U.S. diplomats -- agents of the CIA -- who, protected by their diplomatic privileges, were promoting and sponsoring destabilizing activities in the country. (Wallace Stephanie), Aeronica's representative in the United States, said that the orders against the Nicaraguan airline came from the State Department. Aeronica had obtained permission to make six charter flights between Miami and Managua from 9 July through 17 December of this year. The permission was canceled by the Reagan administration as further economic aggression against Nicaragua.

Transportation Ministry Communique

PA110159 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0429 GMT 11 Jun 83

[Communique issued by the Transportation Ministry in Managua on 10 June 1983 -- read by announcer]

[Text] We have learned that today the U.S. State Department ordered the Civil Aviation Board, the institution in charge of aeronautic affairs in the United States, to cancel the permission granted last week for Aeronica to make six charter flights to Los Angeles, California.

This action is in reprisal for the expulsion of the U.S. diplomats, who are CIA agents, who tried to assassinate our foreign minister, Father Miguel d'Escoto. This political reprisal is another act of aggression that is part of the aggressive and immature policy the Reagan administration is implementing against our people and our revolution, simply because we want to be free, independent and sovereign.

The Transportation Ministry reports to the people that regular Aeronica flights to Miami will continue as usual with the same schedule. Free fatherland or death. Managua, 10 June 1983

(Signed) Rodrigo Cardenal, acting transportation minister

TRADE MINISTER AT UNCTAD ON U.S. 'AGGRESSION'

PA110634 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 10 Jun 83

[Text] Nicaragua asked at the UNCTAD conference today that commercial and economic relations between countries not be used as instruments of pressure and coercion against weak and small countries. Foreign Trade Minister Alejandro Martinez Cuenca suggested this at the UNCTAD conference today, when he asked all of the countries for their solidarity against U.S. aggression. He added that in order to impose its conditions, the United States has taken sanctions against Nicaragua such as abolishing its sugar quota, restricting the supply of products necessary for the country's technological development, and expelling all the Nicaraguan consuls to stop bilateral commerical relations, in what is definitely an open aggression against Nicaragua.

U.S. ACCUSED OF 'PROVOKING CONFLAGRATION'

PA101259 Managua Sistema Sandinista Television Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 9 Jun 83

[Station commentary]

[Text] The United States has once again demonstrated its interest in provoking a regional conflagration in Central America. For this it uses truly immoral methods -- for example, sending more military advisors to the Salvadoran Government and passing them off as doctors; providing the Honduran Army with Israeli Kfir combat airplanes used offensively, not for defense; and installing a new military base in Puerto Castilla.

Closely related to all this, Rear Adm Donald C. Thompson, USCG, commander of the 7th District, United States Coast Guard, arrived in Tegucigalpa yesterday. With regard to this we have to recall the various charges made by our government in the face of attacks by the Honduran Coast Guard against the Nicaraguan Coast Guard in our country's territorial waters. Everything leads us to the conclusion that the arbitrary expulsion of 21 Nicaraguan diplomats and the closure of our missions in the United States is part of a strategy of aggression to bring about a conflagration against our country.

Steps to arm the Honduran Army and the Somozists have been taken, as well as making Honduras the center of operations for the imperialist intervention in Central America. However, the one step they have missed was to close all the channels through which the U.S. people could show their solidarity with Nicaragua and at the same time block the arrival in our country of spare parts and medicines in case of war. Well you saw it. Washington must be happy thinking that it's got it all. They thought this way in Vietnam and Playa Giron and only very late, after being defeated once more, will they realize that they did not have what they will never have -- the morale and willingness of the Nicaraguan people to defend their freedom and sovereignty.

YUGOSLAVIA'S LCY MEMBER JANZIC ENDS VISIT

PA101550 Managua Sistema Sandinist Television Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 9 Jun 83

[Text] Companero Vlado Janzic, director of the Department for International Relations of the League of Communists of Yugoslavia [LCY], left today, very impressed with the reality of our Sandinist people's revolution. [Begin Janzic recording; in vernacular with simultaneous translation into Spanish] [Words indistinct] to learn about the heroic struggle of the Nicaraguan people, their defense of the revolution and their efforts to defend their sovereignty. I wish them new achievements [words indistinct] successes of the revolution. I also received a report on the activities of the working class and how it solves its problems. In sum, I think this visit will be a very important step in our relations. [end recording]

DELEGATION PARTICIPATES IN CHEMICAL ARMS TALKS

PA131915 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 13 Jun 83

[Text] A delegation of the Sandinist Central Organization of Workers, CST, participated with others from 60 countries in the International Trade Union Conference on Chemical and Bacteriological Weapons, held recently in the Vietnam's Ho Chi Minh City. The conference condemned the renewed increase of these arsenals. Above all, it condemned the imperialist aggressiveness that made thousands of Vietnamese citizens victims of chemical weapons during the war that the U.S. Government waged in a vain attempt to crush the longing for freedom of that heroic and noble people.

The 165 delegations attending signed a document expressing solidarity with the Nicaraguan people and their Sandinist people's revolution.

NETHERLANDS DAILY INTERVIEWS DANIEL ORTEGA

PM101149 Rotterdam NRC HANDELSBLAD in Dutch 27 May 83 p 4

[Nicaraguan junta leader Daniel Ortega interview with Frans Kok: "Ortega Counting on Sandinists' Success"]

[Text] Managua, 27 May -- A slim, very young-looking 37-year-old man. Not at all like the picture of the terrible guerrilla leader. But it was he who, together with many others, drove the Somoza family out of Nicaragua in 1979 after years of bloody fighting, and he is the man whom Reagan fears.

He is Daniel Ortega, the leader of the "Nicaragua Libre" -- the words which can be read everywhere, even on the license places of cars. Officially, Ortega is only the coordinator of the Sandinist junta, but no one denies that he is the major leader. This is apparent from everything: his entourage, the respect with which his staff speak of "the commander," the large number of soliders armed with Russian Kalashnikovs with whom he arrives at the building where he is to meet Minister van den Broek -- several hours later than arranged.

Ortega, in a green army uniform without any badges, and Van den Broek, in a white tropical shirt given to him by the junta, talked for 1 and 1/2 hours. After the talks, Minister van den Broek would only say of Ortega the man that he gave the impression of being heavily weighed down by the worries and responsibilities. But Ortega was willing to talk with the press a little longer.

Question: Mr Ortega, in the beginning the revolution was greeted with approval by almost all countries. Now support seems to be disappearing because of the internal situation in your country and because several of your former comrades-in-arms have left the revolution. How do you explain this and what do you intend to do about it?

Oretega: There are not many, only a few, who have turned their backs on the Sandinist revolution. There are problems with which the revolution is confronted, especially the plans for aggression by the United States. But the Nicaraguan revolution offers a solid future, hope and happiness for Central America and the Caribbean region. We will continue the fight for this process.

Question: Why is it that there has been so little of the pluralist society which you had promised?

Ortega: We are, in fact, a very pluralist society, for the revolution is open and in political terms everyone in this country is able to participate in the process in the economic, religious, social, and political fields. The fact that everything is not possible is a product of the pressure and the aggression from the United States, which makes it difficult to perfect the revolutionary process.

Question: Will there be free elections in 1985?

Ortega: Yes, there will be; that is something we have promised. The new law which will regulate one or two things will come next year.

Question: Is it true that you have said that the power of the junta and the government could never be at stake in an election?

Ortega: I am convinced that we represent the will of the people and for this reason there is no need to hold elections on this particular point.

Question: But does the proof of the government's position not lie in the elections themselves?

Ortega: But we would be bound to achieve victory in elections.

Question: Then there are no reservations about this?

Ortega: Do you know one political party in the world which does not think that it will win the elections?

Question: What do you think of the CIA report which says that before the end of this year the rebels will have overthrown your government?

Ortega: The CIA has often been wrong, especially when speaking of the power of the opposition.

Question: But you do not deny that parts of your country are occupied by various anti-Sandinist groups?

Ortega: No, there is not a single part of our country which is occupied. There are from time-to-time attacks from neighboring countries, but that is a different matter. They do have the capacity to strike for a day or more, but then they have to withdraw across the border for supplies and to rest.

Question: How highly do you rate the chances of success of the Contadora initiative?

Ortega: It was not really an initiative, but a declaration. We support it fully, but in the short term no spectacular results can be expected. We have always been in favor of bilateral talks, but under pressure from the United States Honduras has always rejected them.

Question: How do you feel in the present situation?

Ortega: We feel tormented by the suffering of the people. But we have the confidence that we will win in the difficult struggle and that we will then make further progress with the political struggle and the search for a peaceful dialogue in the region.

STATE COUNCIL OFFICIAL SOLIS ON ELECTIONS

PA110624 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 10 Jun 83

[Text] San Jose, Costa Rica -- The general plan for the 1985 elections in Nicaragua will be established in the electoral bill, which should be approved by 4 December of this year at the latest. This was said by Deputy Commander Rafael Solis, State Council vice president and member of the State Council delegation that is touring several Latin American countries to gather information on electoral processes and parliamentary systems that could be used in the 1985 general elections.

PASTORA APPEALS FOR 'BLACK MARKET' WEAPONS

PA132036 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1454 GMT 13 Jun 83

[Text] Miami, 13 Jun (EFE) -- Guerrilla leader Eden Pastora, who leads an anti-Sandinist group in southern Nicaragua, today admitted his arms shortage and appealed to "persons of good will" to give provisions to his group. In a statement submitted to EFE, Pastora, also known as Commander Cero, asks the world's arms "black market" to facilitate the task of supplying weapons to his group of combatants, "because right now we have only 1,500 rifles."

The guerrilla leader, chief of Arde's (Democratic Revolutionary Alliance) military branch, extended his appeal to "persons of good will," urging them to cooperate in "restoring democracy in Nicaragua." Two months ago, in the Nicaraguan-Costa Rican border zone, Pastora's group started a military offensive against the Managua government. The seriousness of this offensive has been acknowledged by the Sandinist leaders themselves.

In his appeal, Pastora asserts that Nicaragua has the historic responsibility, in this decade, "of eliminating two big imperialisms: U.S. imperialism, which supported Somoza, and Soviet imperialism, which supports the current leaders of the national junta."

ANTI-SANDINIST GROUPS COORDINATE FIGHTING

PA132005 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1833 GMT 13 Jun 83

[Excerpt] San Jose, 13 Jun (ACAN-EFE) -- Spokesmen for the anti-Sandinist guerrillas who are operating in the northern and southern part of Nicaragua reported in this capital today that they are coordinating their actions and that Eden Pastora's (Commander Cero's) forces have engaged in fighting in the vicinity of the great lake of the neighboring country. Fernando Chamorro, guerrilla leader fighting in northern Nicaragua, announced that they have attained a high level of coordination in warlike actions in the sector in which he is fighting and in southern Nicaragua.

LA PRENSA INTERVIEWS FDN OFFICIAL ZELEDON

PA132250 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 13 Jun 83 p 8a

[By Jose Quintero de Leon]

[Excerpts] The following interview was granted by business leader Marco Zeledon, one of the FDN's national directors, during his stopover in Panama (on 9 June]. In 1974 Zeledon called on more than 2,000 Nicaraguan businessmen to overthrow Anastasio Somoza's dictatorship. He has been president of the Nicaraguan Higher Council of Private Enterprise, the Association of Industrialists, and the Nicaraguan Development Institute. He is also proud of being a grandson of General Benjamin Zeledon, the national hero and patriot who preceded Sandino. He was accompanied during the interview by Lucia Cardenal Salazar, also an FDN national director. Lucie Cardenal's husband, industrialist Jorge Salazar -- who was president of the Association of Farmers -- was killed by the Sandinist government's security forces after he was deemed dangerous to the regime's existence following publication of his analysis of the Nicaraguan situation.

Why the Northern Front, and Who Is Helping the FDN?

Zeledon was asked why the invasion and armed activities were started in the north along the Honduran border. He replied that the area's rugged mountains allow for more effective guerrilla warfare. He said that they are helped by several countries who cherish democracy, pluralism, and freedom. They also get help from individuals who are aware that they must help the freedom fighters, who are struggling patriotically and making great sacrifices in Nicaragua, if they want to save the rest of Central America and Panama.

He stressed that by themselves the Nicaraguan people can't stand up to the Marxist-Leninist military power, with all its armed might. Therefore, help is needed from countries which cherish freedom and democracy. He was asked what would be done to replace the aid that the United States will allegedly cut off, and if Israel would be a likely candidate in such an event. He said that even if the United States cuts back its aid, he trusts other countries will help.

Will There Be an Agreement With Pastora?

Zeledon refrained from going into an in-depth discussion of the differences with former Sandinist Eden Pastora, Commander Cero, who is fighting in the southern area. He said that it is natural that in the beginning a struggle will be faced with differences of opinion and even mistaken positions. He said: "We believe that all Nicaraguans have the right to fight for their country, and we hope that the actions we have begun will lead to an understanding so that our struggle will be more effective." He said that the FDN's Unity Council has tried to reach an understanding with the Democratic Revolutionary Alliance (Arde), led by Pastora. Some progress has been made, but no definite agreement has been reached, although both parties agree on some common goals.

FORMER ENVOY ON HONDURAN DESIRE FOR PEACE

PA131423 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2349 GMT 12 Jun 83

[Text] Managua, 12 Jun (ACAN-EFE) -- Guillermo Suarez Rivas, former Nicaraguan ambassador to Honduras, returned here Sunday. Suarez told ACAN-EFE that Honduras is "a country with a deep-rooted desire for peace." The former Honduran ambassador affirmed that he considers his withdrawal from the diplomatic post as "routine."

In the presence of Jorge Lopez, charge d'affaires of the Foreign Ministry of Managua, Suarez Rivas said that he is still part of the Nicaraguan foreign service. He added that for now he will dedicate himself to resting and does not know what his future will be. However, diplomatic sources indicated that he will be appointed to another post in the Central American region.

Suarez Rivas said that he was seen off this morning in Tegucigalpa by the diplomatic corps accredited to that country, and by Honduran citizens "concerned with a warlike confrontation between Honduras and Nicaragua." According to Suarez Rivas, the Hondurans' concern about the danger of a war "is justified now that Honduras has become a personal platform."

HAVANA CITES NUNEZ ON EFFECTS OF U.S. POLICY

PA110048 Havana International Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 10 Jun 83

[Text] Commander Carlos Nunez, president of the Nicaraguan State Council, has told the Cuban newspaper GRANMA that intensifeid U.S. imperialist aggression could affect Nicaragua's plans to implement the electoral and political parties laws, and force the country to give priority to defense. Nunez pointed out that the White House policy of using Honduras as the spearhead of its campaign against Nicaragua and its interventionist plans for the rest of Central America are well known.

This intensified counterrevolutionary line, he said, could force us -- despite our wish to institutionalize the country -- to concentrate efforts on defense of the fatherland and to leave plans of less priority for another time.

Ortega Talks With Stone Noted

PA120042 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 11 Jun 83

[Text] Commander Daniel Ortega, coordinator of the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction, has said that he talked to Richard Stone, U.S. ambassador at large for Central America, from a serious, responsible, and above all firm and dignified position. Participating in the "Face the People" program in Managua, the Sandinist leader reiterated that the Nicaraguan authorities' position has been, is, and will be in favor of a dialogue, even under the worst circumstances, while remaining firm in defense of the revolution.

Referring to the U.S. Government's policy, Daniel Ortega said that the efforts of the Nicaraguan authorities for a dialogue have crashed against the obstinate attitude of those who think that the problems of Central American can only be solved by the use of the military force.

In another part of the program, Daniel Ortega said that the Sandinist government will talk neither with the former Somozist Guardsmen who are attacking Nicaragua from Honduras, nor with the traitor Eden Pastora, who is conducting incursions into Nicaraguan territory from bases in Costa Rica. He added that they will talk only with the dogs' master, not with the dogs.

Before meeting with Daniel Ortega, Stone talked with Foreign Minister Miguel D'Escoto; Commander Julio Ramos, Sandinist People's Army Intelligence director; Juan Jose Ubeda, State Security deputy director; representatives of the parties of the Revolutionary Patriotic Front; leaders of the opposition; and Msgr Miguel Obando y Bravo, the archbishop of Managua.

Message at UNCTAD Meeting

PA120113 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 11 Jun 83

[Excerpt] A message from Daniel Ortega, coordinator of the Nicaraguan Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction, has been read at the sixth UNCTAD conference in Belgrade, Yugoslavia. Ortega stressed the harm that some obstacles are causing to exportation, especially obstacles that are based on an attitude of political confrontation between a big power and nations that, like Nicaragua, love and defend their independence.

Ortega expressed the hope that the sixth UNCTAD conference will accept the resolutions approved by the Nonaligned Countries Movement in New Delhi and by the Group of 77 in Buenos Aires. Ortega explained that these resolutions set forth once more the interests of the underdeveloped countries, interests that are being harmed by the current world economic crisis.

BRIEFS

AMBASSADOR TO BULGARIA -- The Nicaraguan Foreign Ministry has appointed Bayardo Salmeron Chavez new ambassador to Bulgaria. [Summary] [Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 29 May 83 p 5 PA]

COTTON PRODUCTION -- The National Cotton Enterprise, ENAL, has received 357,914 bales of cotton for export from the 1982-83 crop. ENAL has already sold 231,000 bales for which it has received $73,856,473. [Summary] [Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 7 Jun 83 PA]

NEW STATE COUNCIL MEMBER -- Octavio Caldera Azmitia, born in Guatemala, has been appointed a member of the Council of State representing the FSLN. Caldera Azmitia is a psychologist by profession, and is from the FSLN's Region Two. [Summary] [Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 2 Jun 83 p 12 PA]

ARDE DONATION REQUEST -- This is a call from the medical assistance section of the Democratic Revolutionary Alliance, Arde, to Nicaraguans and the free peoples of the world. In view of the current situation of our people due to the genocidal regime in power and the hundreds of thousands who emigrate looking for safety, we seek from all people of good will whatever you can contribute to cooperate with our people. Those who are willing can mail a check to the person in charge of medical resources, Arde, Post Office Box No 348, Pavas, Costa Rica; or to Bank Account No 54177-1, Anglo-Costarricense Bank. [Summary] [(Clandestine) Voice of Sandino in English to Nicaragua 0000 GMT 8 Jun 83 PA]

OAU SUMMIT VIEWED AS DEFEAT, FAILURE FOR U.S.

FL131849 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 1142 GMT 13 Jun 83

[Commentary by Oscar Ferrer and Joaquin Rivery during the Revista de la Manana program -- live]

[Excerpts] [Ferrer] The attempts made by international reactionary sectors, especially by the government of U.S. President Ronald Reagan, to divide African countries and to undermine the OAU -- which recently commemorated its 20th anniversary -- have just failed in view of the successful conclusion of the 19th OAU summit held in the Ethiopian capital. The OAU summit was postponed twice in 1982 as a result of maneuvers by international reactionary sectors, especially the United States. Because the summit was to be held in Libya, the United States made every attempt to prevent it. U.S. enmity toward the Libyan Government is well known. To boycott the Libyan summit, two basic issues were raised: First, the presence of the Western Sahara's representative at the summit despite the fact that he was fully entitled to be there since Western Sahara is the 51st member of the OAU; and second, the question of which faction should represent Chad, a country where two factions have been engaged in a civil war. Based on these two issues, international reactionary sectors forced the postponement of the OAU summit on two occasions last year. The 19th OAU summit has been held now in Addis Ababa thanks to the voluntary withdrawal of the Saharan delegation, which put an end to the imperialist maneuvers. The prospects of the 19th OAU summit were so uncertain that until a few days ago there were doubts that it would be held. Thus, the successful conclusion of the summit marks a victory for the African people and a defeat for the imperialist forces.

[Rivery] Yes, that is the point. I believe the OAU summit held in Addis Ababa, capital of Ethiopia, was not only a success but a defeat for the enemies of Africa. Morocco attempted to boycott the summit again by objecting to the presence of the Saharan delegation. The Moroccan delegation made every effort in this direction. Yet the Saharan delegation again relinquished its legitimate right and withdrew from the meeting. This time Morocco and the other countries backed by the United States could no longer use the Saharan presence to force another postponement.

[Ferrer] We should also note that the 19th OAU summit held in Addis Ababa was described as a success by Mengistu Haile-Mariam, the new OAU chairman and president [as heard] of Ethiopia. We should also note that the Ethiopian leader played a major role in making the summit a success.

[Rivery] I was saying earlier that the very appointment of Mengistu, the leader of a progressive African country, as OAU chairman for the next term was already a defeat sustained by the United States and by the enemies of Africa at the 19th OAU summit.

BRIEFS

CUBAN FERTILIZER PRODUCTION -- Cuba currently produces 1.5 million tons of fertilizers per year, Julian Rizo Alvarez, member of the party Secretariat stated in his closing remarks at the first national meeting on agricultural chemistry. The 3-day meeting held at the main offices of the Cuban Academy of Sciences was attended by nearly 200 delegates who discussed 16 general topics. Rizo praised our country's achievements in this field and thanked all participants in the meeting, the main objective of which was to promote a more rational use of fertilizers to improve crop production. [Text] [Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 10 Jun 83 FL]

ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA

CHANGE IN FOREIGN POLICY ORIENTATION SEEN

PA122300 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1846 GMT 12 Jun 83

[By Yussuff Haniff]

[Text] St Johns (Antigua), 12 Jun (EFE) -- After maintaining a pro-U.S. international policy image since it became independent from Great Britain in November 1981, the Caribbean island state of Antigua and Barbuda has started to look toward countries in other orbits.

Oscar Henry will be accredited this coming week at the first ambassador to the socialist island of Grenada. The accrediting of Henry to Grenada, which has tense relations with the United States, is one of the decisions taken by Antigua in the past 6 months that seem to suggest that External Affairs Minister Lester Bird is trying to change the island's international image.

The first indi ations of the change were observed several months ago when Bird recalled the Antigua representatives abroad to tell them that important foreign policy changes were imminent. The meeting was quickly followed by the establishing of diplomatic relations with Arab countries such as Iraq and Algeria. The greatest change was the decision to sever relations with Taiwan and establish them with the PRC. This was a hard blow for Taiwan, which counted on having an office here for economic cooperation with the eastern Caribbean region.

Premier Vere C. Bird, the external affairs minister's father, will visit China in July to meet with officials of that country.

Lester Bird has also tried to define a new direction for Antigua in view of the lack of action both by the East and West to aid the developing countries.

He was the only official of an English-speaking Caribbean government to deny the U.S. charge that Grenada was building an airport for military purposes.

Despite this, up to now it is far from initiating relations with Cuba or the USSR. The external affairs minister apparently favors doing so, but it is noted that he has been restrained by the strong opposition from conservatives in the cabinet.

In any event, officials have indicated that they have advised Havana and Moscow that Antigua is interested in establishing relations with them.

These acts, however, do not appear to change the attitude of the island to continue promoting tourism, principally from the United States, as its main source of income.

The United States still maintains a military base here, as well as a relay station for the Voice of America, and construction work has begun on a new building for the U.S. Embassy in this capital.

BARBADOS

ADAMS ANNOUNCES TERMINATION OF IMF PROGRAM

FL131630 Bridgetown CANA in English 2250 GMT 13 Jun 83

[Text] Port-of-Spain, Trinidad, June 11, CANA -- Barbados has "called a halt" to its multi-million dollar programme with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) for balance of payments support, Prime Minister Tom Adams has told the press here. "We did not bother to take up the funds that were due (to us) this month, but have delayed renewing our programme," Adams said in an interview with the EXPRESS newspaper.

The prime minister said Barbados currency had comfortably maintained its value and "our foreign reserves have been increasing and are now at their highest level, increasing steadily all this year since we approached the IMF..." He said Barbados had passed the IMF's economic performance tests "very comfortably indeed so far and, more than that, we have called a halt in the programme."

Barbados reached agreement with the fund in October last year for 98.6 million dollars (Bdos) in medium-term balance-of-payments financing and has drawn down more than 56 million dollars.

"We are very grateful to the IMF for providing the funds, for the advice which they have provided, and for their understanding of the economic conditions of Barbados," he said.

"If things do not get worse internationally, I can fairly confidently predict that our economy will resume the forward march which it has enjoyed for so long," he said.

Barbados had 215.4 million dollars in foreign exchange reserves at the end of March 1983 - 53.3 million dollars more than at March last year.

OPPOSITION LEADER HAYNES QUESTIONS IBRD LOAN

FL131609 Bridgetown BARBADOS ADVOCATE in English 8 Jun 83 p 1

[Excerpts] Opposition spokesman on Finance, Dr. Richie Haynes, has expressed concern about the conditions of a US $10.5 million loan which the government is seeking to borrow from the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD). Speaking in the House of Assembly yesterday on the resolution to approve the borrowing of the funds for the purpose of assisting in the financing of the Industrial Credit Fund, Dr. Haynes also criticised the government for not giving the House what he believed was enough information about the loan.

Dr Haynes quoted details of the loan from a World Bank press release which he said he received on Monday, and said that he got more information out of the release about the loan, than he got from the government. He said that the terms of the loan were such that they would decidedly influence the prices in the country.

Dr. Haynes charged that the government was "putting the country in a strait jacket with these loans," and added that the government was not only borrowing money, but borrowing policies as well because the conditions of the loans would have influence on the country's policies.

"There is one thing borrowing money, but you have to adhere to the terms," said Dr. Haynes.

Dr. Haynes said he wanted to know what tourism projects were identified for use of the loan funds, and how was the small manufacturer going to benefit from the loan, if the manufacturer was going to get loans any easier.

Dr Haynes also observed that the government was committing the country to debts to be repaid beginning in 1986.

Government Justifies IBRD Loan

FL131619 Bridgetown BARBADOS ADVOCATE in English 8 Jun 83 p 1

[Text] Attorney-general and minister of foreign affairs, Mr. Louis Tull, has defended government's borrowing of US $10.5 million from the World Bank, saying that the funds were to be made available to the productive sectors of the economy.

Mr. Tull said that the areas of expenditure of the money did not include construction, but pointed out that the fund would be used for the agro-industrial sector, tourism, manufacturing and fisheries, among others.

He was responding to comments made in the House of Assembly yesterday by opposition spokesman on finance, Dr. Richie Haynes, while the Chamber was debating a resolution to approve the borrowing of the money from the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) for the purpose of assisting in financing the Industrial Credit Fund (ICF).

Mr. Tull said that the loan would be put into the hands of the Central Bank, which will channel the funds through intermediaries, and will sound out and evaluate what projects were economically viable.

Mr. Tull said that the government would not borrow money to pay salaries.

Speaking about the country's rising national debt, he said that government would borrow money for capital development projects. He added that for a government to develop its capital programmes, it was of necessity that it must borrow money.

Mr. Tull emphasised that the borrowed funds were all going into productive sectors of the economy. He added that any right thinking person should realize that this was a useful area in which the government should use the money to bring about the kind of stimulation so vital to the economy.

PUBLIC WORKERS UNION REJECTS 'MEAGER' WAGE HIKE

FL131547 Bridgetown BARBADOS ADVOCATE in English 8 Jun 83 p 1

[Excerpt] The National Union of Public Workers (NUPW) has urged civil servants to refuse to accept the recent increase of 2.5 per cent on their 1982 wages and salaries as a protest against government's legislation of pay hikes for the public sector. NUPW General Secretary Joseph Goddard said that, "because of the various unions and the general public's opposition to the government legislating increases for public workers in the manner done in the past, the government took a less direct route and legislated increase in the last budget.

"It still amounts to the gross undermining of the collective bargaining system as obtained previously in the public sector and as such must be condemned and treated with contempt."

Before public workers receive increases in salaries they are given the option of continuing to receive the old salary or to accept the revised one, the NUPW said in a statement.

The NUPW general secretary said that he "would prefer to see public workers, as a matter of principle and as a distinct act of protest refuse the meagre increase and support the struggle due to come less than a year from now for a just increase in wages and salaries."

JAMAICA

BRIEFS

SEAGA NOTES TOPSOIL LOSSES -- Jamaica is losing 40 to 50 percent of topsoil each year, according to Prime Minister Edward Seaga, who also says that 1/16 of the country's land has been ravaged. Speaking at a meeting yesterday with the executive director of the UN environment programme, Dr Mostafa Tolba, at Jamaica House, Prime Minister Seaga said the land had been ravaged by improper land clearing and burning, among other things, and this could result in a crisis situation for agriculture. Dr Tolba pledged support to assist with securing financing for Jamaica's watershed management plan. [Kingston DAILY GLEANER in English 4 Jun 83 p 1 FL]

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

CHAMBERS REJECTS ATTORNEY GENERAL'S RESIGNATION

FL131530 Bridgetown CANA in English 2220 GMT 13 Jun 83

[Excerpts] Port-of-Spain, Trinidad, June 11, CANA -- Trinidad and Tobago Prime Minister George Chambers has categorically rejected allegations that his publication of official correspondence containing comments critical of a high court judge was a threat to the independence of the judiciary.

In a letter to Attorney General Russell Martineau turning down his offer to resign over the issue, Chambers said the record of the government in its rigid adherence to a free and independent judiciary was "unimpeachable and unassailable."

Both the prime minister and the attorney general have been under fire here for criticising comments made by Judge Lennox Deyalsingh in a judgement against the state in which he awarded damages to a squatter whose home had been demolished twice by the government.

This is the second time in the 27-year rule of the People's National Movement (came into power in 1956) that an attorney general has offered his resignation. The first time was in 1970 when then PNM Attorney General Karl Hudson-Phillips offered his resignation to late Prime Minister Dr Eric Williams -- who refused the offer -- at the height of public criticism over the infamous public order bill which he had attempted to introduce here. The bill, subsequently withdrawn, was meant to regulate public behavior and many of its measures were deemed draconian by various sectors of the public.

EXILES SPECULATE ON BOUTERSE'S INTENTIONS

FL102327 Bridgetown CANA in English 1800 GMT 10 Jun 83

[Text] The Hague, Netherlands, June 10, CANA -- A group of Holland-based Surinamese exiles opposed to the military regime in Paramaribo speculated here today Army strongman, Lieutenant-Colonel Daysi Bouterse, will continue to strengthen relations with Cuba despite the departure from his government of its strongest pro-Havana advocate.

The Council for the Liberation of Suriname, led by former President Henck Chin-A-Sen, was referring to the resignation this week of People's Mobilisation and Culture Minister Badresein Sital from the government. Lieutenant Sital, regarded as the leftist military regime's chief ideologist, quit the post because of what officials said were "serious differences" between himself and the revolutionary leadership.

The council said the initialling of a treaty of friendship between Suriname and Cuba shortly after Prime Minister Errol Alibux's return from a visit to Brazil last month was evidence of Bouterse's intention to stay close to Havana. Following the Brazil trip, indications were that Suriname would have cooled its flourishing ties with Cuba after the Brasilia Government had agreed to provide badly needed assistance to its financially strapped neighbour.

"We are sure about what we are getting from Brazil," Alibux said in reference to Brazil's pledge to provide Suriname with a 300 million dollar package of arms, military training and development aid. He added: "We're not sure about Cuba." In fact, according to NEWSWEEK magazine, Suriname recently rejected an offer of Cuban health assistance to which, Alibux was quoted as saying in Brazil, there were ideological strings attached.

"Lacking a political ideology, Bouterse has always been an opportunist who is only interested in consolidating his own power," the council said in a statement, adding: "For this reason, he will no doubt resume the Cuban line, knowing perfectly well that otherwise Cuba will not hesitate to liquidate him because of the fact that Fidel Castro will never give up his conquest of Suriname."

The Bouterse regime, which is pledged to the creation of a socialist state in Suriname, seized power in a 1980 coup that toppled th elected government of Prime Minister Henck Arron.

BOLIVIA

MIR FAVORS MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS IN 1983

PY140140 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1206 GMT 10 Jun 83

[Excerpt] La Paz, 10 Jun (EFE) -- The Revolutionary Movement of the Left (MIR) came out today in favor of municipal election in Bolivia this year. In a communique signed by its principal leaders, the MIR notes that holding municipal elections is part of the political program of the Democratic and Popular Unity (UDP) so that the democratic process initiated in October 1982 can be deepened and fortified. The communique urges the executive branch to review its position against holding municipal elections, and states the MIR conviction that these elections "can and must be held this year, because there are no legal or technical reasons for delaying them."

The Siles Zuazo government rejected this week the congressional decision that the executive branch should call municipal elections this year. The rejection was made on the ground that "updated electoral files and electoral regulatory law do not exist, and the country faces an economic crisis." The MIR considers that "municipal elections are an essential element for the defense, consolidation and reorganization of the democratic process."

ECUADOR

DEFENSE MINISTER MAKING VISIT TO BRAZIL

PA140352 Quito Cadena Ecuador Radio in Spanish 2300 GMT 13 Jun 83

[Text] National Defense Minister General Jorge Maldonado has traveled to Rio de Janeiro at the invitation of the Brazilian Armed Forces. During his stay in Brazil, Maldonado will tour several military installations. He will be out of the country until 18 June.

HAVANA REPORTS ON TEACHERS STRIKE IN QUITO

FL101607 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 1340 GMT 10 Jun 83

[Text] Quito -- Approximately 10,000 persons participated in the hunger march staged here to support a teachers strike called last Monday to protest the difficult economic situation most Ecuadoreans have been experiencing.

Led by leaders of the National Union of Teachers [UNE], by provincial delegations and members of unions affiliated with the General Union of Ecuadorean Workers and by Federations of University and Secondary Students, the teachers marched on the main streets of Quito shouting antigovernment slogans.

UNE President Ernesto Alvarez said the teachers strike will continue until a definite answer is obtained from the government. The Ecuadorean Government proposed a $32 across the board increase, but the teachers demand a $180 increase to those having a 25-year seniority or more.

FRENCH GUIANA

OFFICIAL DESCRIBES NEW GOVERNMENT SYSTEM

PA101411 Paris AFP in Spanish 0132 GMT 10 Jun 83

[Text] Cayenne, 9 Jun (AFP) -- Georges Lemoine, French interior secretary of state responsible for overseas departments and territories, has told Guiana inhabitants that they will have to assume their own responsibilities within the framework of decentralization. Everything has changed now. It is not in Paris, but in Guiana, that Guiana's future will be decided, by the electorate, responsible socioprofessionals and the unions.

Application of the overseas law does not mean that the state is not fulfilling its duties. This is simply a distribution of responsibilities between the department and the capital.

Lemoine admitted that the coexistence in the overseas departments of two assemblies (regional and general council) in charge of running one territory poses very special problems, and that he personally prefers the assembly system, which has been rejected by the constitutional council. Finally, he added that in the course of a few weeks the domain of each of these assemblies will be known.

GUYANA

WORKERS HOLD BAUXITE STRIKE, OTHER STOPPAGES

FL101658 Bridgetown CANA in English 1634 GMT 10 Jun 83

[By Edwin Ali]

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, June 10, CANA -- Guyana's bauxite industry strike dragged into its fifth consecutive day today, with the state-run company asserting that the stoppage had not seriously hampered production. The Guyana Mining Enterprise (Guymine) said in a statement: "Over the last seven days Guymine managed in some cases to even surpass its average daily level of production prior to the work stoppage."

But the Guyana Mine Workers Union, which called the strike Monday over the introduction of a shortened work week, described the Guymine comment as "ridiculous," insisting that more than [words indistinct] The Guymine statement said prior to the stoppage, the average daily production stood at 2,100 tons, but that output had now increased to over 2,500 tons.

Yesterday hundreds of sugar workers on the right bank of the Demerara River took strike action in solidarity with the bauxite workers, and a number of them were arrested but were not charged, a police spokesman said. The bauxite workers had initially planned a one-day-a-week strike to protest a continuing shortage of basic imported foodstuff, in the face of Guyana's foreign exchange shortage.

And in a related development yesterday Georgetown taxi drivers staged a four hour work stoppage to support demands for a freer supply of food and at the same time protest what they said was police harassment.

Guyana police have mounted a major campaign to curb the high level of smuggling that has built up due to government's ban on a wide range of imports.

A spokesman for the Hired Car Drivers' Association said police were harassing members over their sources of spare parts and new tires, items that are also on the banned list.

URUGUAY

AFP REPORTS DEATH OF INTERIOR MINISTER TRINIDAD

PY132145 Paris AFP in Spanish 1943 GMT 13 Jun 83

[Excerpt] Montevideo, 13 Jun (AFP) -- General Yamandu Trinidad, Uruguayan interior minister and one of the most outstanding spokesmen for the civilian-military regime which is ruling Uruguay, today died at Armed Forces Central Hospital. Gen Trinidad has been interior minister since 27 March 1981.

VENEZUELA

GOVERNMENT TO ELIMINATE MINISTRIES, ENTERPRISES

PA112213 Paris AFP in Spanish 1726 GMT 11 Jun 83

[Excerpt] Caracas, 11 Jun (AFP) -- The Venezuelan Government is planning to eliminate several ministries and state enterprises in view of the financial crisis affecting the country, President Luis Herrera Campins has announced.

The state budget for 1983 which was reduced 10 percent compared to 1982, will be reduced at least another 10 percent for 1984.

Herrera did not specify what ministries or enterprises of the state -- which controls 60 percent of the productive enterprises -- will be eliminated, although he did announce that the measure might be taken in October.

HAVANA CITES VENEZUELAN LEADERS ON STONE'S TOUR

FL101415 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 1136 GMT 10 Jun 83

[Text] Caracas -- Venezuelan Peace Council President Ricardo Molina has charged U.S. Special Ambassador Richard Stone with seeking to conceal the Reagan administration's interventionist, belligerent policy during his tour of several Latin American countries.

Luis Beltran Prieto, former president of the Venezuelan congress, has compared Stone's tour of the region to that of a foreman through the ranch.